APPENDIX I

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN CANADA

1941 - 1966

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MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN CANADA

1941-1966

Introduction

The significance of marriage and divorce in the lives of women is such that a study of these two phenomena is basic to the work of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada.

This, however, is a demographical report, consisting of statistical estimates of the frequency of these phenomena in the recent past and projections covering the next fifteen years. No attempt has been made at a socio-cultural analysis of marriage and divorce, since such would have required surveys and more developed statistics than those presently available.

Before submitting the results of our analysis, a word should be said about our marriage and divorce projections. These are based on a number of assumptions, such as the mortality and migration assumptions used in arriving at the basic population projections required for our calculations, and other assumptions regarding marriage and divorce.

The multiplicity of assumptions may lead one to question the reliability of our projections. It is quite unlikely that our estimates will turn out to be accurate. Our projections, we feel, should not be considered as precise forecasts of future events, but rather as working tools, or as guides to the possible magnitudes of the phenomena. They should also be considered as possibilities; not as certainties.

We wish to tender our thanks to the following for their help: Dr. K.S. Gnanasekaran, of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, who helped us with the provincial projections; Mrs. Walsh, of the Vital Statistics Section, who kindly supplied us with unpublished material needed for our work; and various friends who made valuable suggestions in the course of informal discussions.

Analysis of Marriages

Marriages are one aspect of vital statistics. Annual vital statistics reports contain tables relating marriages to various characteristics of the spouses, such as age, prior marital status and religion. The tables also give the average and median ages of the spouses and the crude marriage rate. However, apart from religion, the report gives no information concerning the social, economic or cultural characteristics of the spouses.

The purpose of the analysis of recent marriage trends contained in the following report is to determine the frequency and variations of the phenomenon among women and to establish a basis for assumptions underlying our marriage projections. In measuring the incidence of marriage, our choice of indices was largely governed by our projection requirements. In other words, indices of marriage trends in the recent past were used for making projections to 1981.

By and large, the 1949 to 1966 period served as a basis for the analysis. This recent period is sufficiently long to show trends, yet it contains no major upsets to affect them. Also, Newfoundland was first included in our statistics in 1949.

Marriage Trends between 1941 and 1966

Exceptionally, the period reviewed begins in 1941. We have complete statistics for the whole of Canada for the less specific indices examined in this section.

Marriages increased by 25% from 124,644 in 1941 to 155,596 in 1966, but the actual increase occurred since 1963. Until that year,

apart from the war-time disturbance which led to an increase of 10% in
1946 as compared with 1941, the number of marriages changed very little
(see Chart 1 and Table 1).

The crude marriage rate, i.e. the annual number of marriages
in relation to the total population at the half way point of the year
(expressed in marriages per 1,000 population), shows a very different
trend. By 1963, the rate was 35% lower than in 1941 (see Chart 1). The
decrease was gradual. Graph 2 shows the trend very clearly. The slump
from 1941 to 1946 was due to the war. After 1946, the rate rose to its
pre-war level, after which it declined slowly until 1963. There has been
a slight recovery since that year. Since the number of marriages remained
fairly constant during this period, it follows that the decline in the
rate is due to the growth of the population. This was a period of high
fertility, during which the under 15 population, in which there are no
marriages, increased rapidly. The upward trend of the marriage rate
since 1963 is due to the fact that these large post-war generations are
now reaching marriageable age.

Canadian marriage rate trends are very similar to those of the
United-States and Belgium (Chart 2); a disturbance during the war years was
followed by a decline with an upward trend starting in 1962-63. Trends
in our Canadian provinces are generally very similar, with more pronounced
annual variations due to the smaller numbers involved (Table 1).

Another index, the average age at marriage, will now be
considered (Chart 3). During the period under consideration, the average
age of brides fell by 2.8% and the average age of single brides by 7.4%.
The average age of grooms, which is higher than that of brides, fell from
28.9 in 1941 to 27.0 in 1966. In 1966, 50% of brides married before
the age of 21.2, while 50% of grooms were under 23.7 years old.

NUPTIALITÉ

TABLEAU 1. Nuptialité et taux, Canada et provinces, 1936-1966

Nuptialité

Année	Canada	T.-N.	Î. P.-É	N.-É.	N.-B.	Qué.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alb.	C.-B.	Yukon	T. N.-O.
1941	124,644	2,684	673	6,596	4,941	32,782	43,270	8,305	7,036	8,470	9,769	36	82
1942	130,786	3,269	778	6,874	4,934	33,857	45,466	8,395	7,207	9,034	10,827	36	109
1943	113,827	2,729	653	6,105	3,985	33,856	36,109	6,901	6,172	7,771	9,385	67	94
1944	104,656	3,000	646	5,942	3,813	31,922	31,227	6,294	5,919	7,299	8,434	94	66
1945	111,376	3,154	680	5,992	4,491	33,211	34,137	6,579	6,369	7,310	9,262	69	122
1946	137,398	3,067	837	6,549	5,866	36,650	46,073	8,594	8,279	9,478	11,762	66	177
1947	130,400	2,917	676	5,861	5,189	35,494	44,056	7,712	7,674	8,797	11,852	61	111
1948	126,118	2,610	635	5,093	4,640	34,646	43,242	7,325	7,171	8,844	11,718	77	117
1949	124,087	2,445	619	5,058	4,251	33,485	43,304	7,265	7,037	9,037	11,376	76	134
1950	125,083	2,515	616	5,065	4,376	34,093	43,744	7,128	6,904	9,294	11,110	84	154
1951	128,408	2,517	583	5,094	4,386	35,704	45,198	7,366	6,805	9,305	11,272	68	110
1952	128,474	2,730	613	5,390	4,276	35,374	45,251	7,128	6,944	9,514	11,081	73	100
1953	131,034	2,771	647	5,378	4,232	35,968	45,954	7,277	7,186	10,126	11,298	94	103
1954	128,629	2,952	605	5,265	4,278	35,516	45,028	6,837	6,953	9,960	10,991	110	134
1955	128,029	3,211	667	5,288	4,359	35,356	44,634	6,913	6,494	9,844	11,011	125	127
1956	132,713	3,073	649	5,543	4,591	37,290	46,282	6,709	6,403	9,965	11,950	112	146
1957	133,186	3,041	627	5,206	4,284	37,135	46,780	6,594	6,510	10,117	12,620	110	162
1958	131,525	3,047	619	5,135	4,170	36,229	46,894	6,430	6,464	10,186	12,094	109	148
1959	132,474	2,893	639	5,310	4,310	37,124	46,598	6,661	6,388	10,402	11,910	109	130
1960	130,338	3,104	690	5,250	4,430	36,211	45,855	6,606	6,209	10,482	11,203	107	191
1961	128,475	3,306	624	5,292	4,504	35,943	44,434	6,512	6,149	10,474	10,964	128	145
1962	129,381	3,274	677	5,256	4,382	37,038	44,454	6,354	6,044	10,423	11,196	109	174
1963	131,111	3,280	684	5,127	4,391	37,358	45,306	6,694	6,197	10,163	11,677	95	139
1964	138,135	3,385	662	5,339	4,611	39,400	48,501	6,796	6,382	10,634	12,158	94	173
1965	145,519	3,412	713	5,549	4,766	40,893	51,274	7,012	6,806	11,209	13,639	108	138
1966	155,596	3,728	752	5,833	5,165	44,411	54,571	7,312	6,987	11,879	14,682	94	182

Tableau 1. (suite). Taux pour 1,000 habitants

Année													
1941	10.6	8.7	7.1	11.4	10.8	9.8	11.4	11.4	7.9	10.6	11.9	7.2	6.8
1942	10.9	10.6	8.6	11.6	10.6	10.0	11.7	11.6	8.5	11.6	12.4	7.2	9.1
1943	9.4	8.7	7.2	10.1	8.6	9.8	9.2	9.5	7.4	9.9	10.4	13.4	7.8
1944	8.5	9.5	7.1	9.7	8.3	9.1	7.9	8.7	7.1	9.0	9.0	18.8	5.5
1945	9.0	9.8	7.4	9.7	9.6	9.3	8.5	9.0	7.6	9.0	9.8	13.8	10.2
1946	10.9	9.3	8.9	10.8	12.3	10.1	11.3	11.8	9.9	11.8	11.7	8.3	11.1
1947	10.1	8.7	7.2	9.5	10.6	9.6	10.5	10.4	9.2	10.7	11.4	7.6	6.9
1948	9.6	7.6	6.8	8.1	9.3	9.1	10.1	9.8	8.6	10.4	10.8	9.6	7.3
1949	9.2	7.1	6.6	8.0	8.4	8.6	9.9	9.6	8.5	10.2	10.2	9.5	8.4
1950	9.1	7.2	6.4	7.9	8.5	8.6	9.8	9.3	8.3	10.2	9.8	10.5	9.6
1951	9.2	7.0	5.0	7.9	8.5	8.8	9.8	9.5	8.2	9.9	9.7	7.6	6.9
1952	8.9	7.3	6.1	8.3	8.1	8.5	9.5	8.9	8.2	9.8	9.2	8.1	6.3
1953	8.8	7.2	6.4	8.1	7.9	8.4	9.3	9.0	8.3	10.0	9.1	10.4	6.4
1954	8.4	7.5	6.0	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.8	8.3	8.0	9.4	8.5	11.0	7.9
1955	8.2	7.9	6.7	7.7	8.0	7.8	8.5	8.2	7.4	9.0	8.2	11.4	7.1
1956	8.3	7.4	6.6	8.0	8.3	8.1	8.6	7.9	7.3	8.9	8.5	9.3	7.7
1957	8.0	7.2	6.3	7.4	7.6	7.8	8.3	7.6	7.4	8.7	8.5	9.2	8.5
1958	7.7	7.1	6.2	7.2	7.3	7.4	8.1	7.3	7.3	8.4	7.9	8.4	7.4
1959	7.6	6.6	6.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.8	7.5	7.0	8.3	7.6	8.4	6.2
1960	7.3	6.9	6.7	7.2	7.5	7.0	7.5	7.3	6.8	8.1	7.0	7.6	8.7
1961	7.0	7.2	6.0	7.2	7.5	6.8	7.1	7.1	6.6	7.9	6.7	8.8	6.3
1962	7.0	7.0	6.3	7.0	7.2	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.5	7.6	6.7	7.3	7.0
1963	6.9	6.9	6.3	6.8	7.2	6.8	7.0	7.1	6.6	7.2	6.9	6.3	5.3
1964	7.2	7.0	6.1	7.1	7.5	7.1	7.3	7.1	6.8	7.4	7.0	6.3	6.4
1965	7.4	7.0	6.5	7.3	7.7	7.2	7.6	7.3	7.2	7.7	7.6	7.7	5.1
1966	7.8	7.6	6.9	7.7	8.4	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.3	8.1	7.8	6.5	6.3

Graphique 1.

Graphique 2.

Années de naissance

Marriage Trends by Age Groups

Before analysing marriage rates by five-year age groups, we should first consider marriage trends based on rates obtained by relating the number of marriages per year to the spinster population in the 15-44 age group, rather than to the population as a whole. In spite of its weaknesses, this index gives a truer measure of the phenomenon under consideration. It has the advantage of eliminating the married population which cannot marry. True, it disregards widows and divorcees, but these contribute few marriages to the annual total, which is attributed entirely to spinsters. Chart 4 shows this trend both in Canada and the United-States. The rate has been calculated for the census years only, as annual estimates of the single population prior to 1961 are not available. The chart shows a slight rise in the marriage rate between 1941 and 1956, followed by a steady decline until 1963. These facts confirm the remarks made earlier about the weakness of the crude marriage rate, which, being influenced by the age structure of the overall population, gives but a poor picture of the actual trend.

We shall now turn to marriage rates by five-year age groups (Chart 5). These indices are more refined, but they do suffer from the fact that marriages of spinsters in one age group are related to the total female population and not the spinster population of that group. These indices were selected to meet the requirements of our projection formula since, to estimate future marriages, we needed rates applicable to an estimated total basic population, without regard to marital status, since the latter would be determined by the assumptions made.

Graphique 4.
...DE MONTRÉAL
Taux de nuptialité des femmes célibataires de 15-44 ans, 1941-1944

Graphique 5. Taux de nuptialité (premiers mariages)
Canada 1949-1966

Sexe féminin

Taux de nuptialité pour 1000 femmes par 2 ans par groupe d'âge

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

20-24

15-19

5-9

30-34

35-39

40-44

45-49

Taux de nuptialité (premiers mariages)
Canada 1949-1966

The rate for the 15-19 age group rose until 1956, then dipped from 1956 to 1963, when it started rising again. In all other age groups, the marriage rate declined between 1951 and 1963. For the over 30s, rates have levelled off since 1962. For the under 30s, the rising trend started in 1961 for the 20-24 group, and in 1963 and 1964 for the 25-29 and the 15-19 groups respectively. These last figures indicate that the rising trend of the crude marriage rate reflects a genuine phenomenon.

It is also interesting to note that, in spite of the declining age at marriage, the rate of the 20-24 group is by far the highest for the whole period. Chart 6 graphically illustrates the dominance of the 20-24 group marriage rate. It also shows that, in spite of the recent rising trend, no group, except the 20-24 group, had reached the 1956 level by 1966.
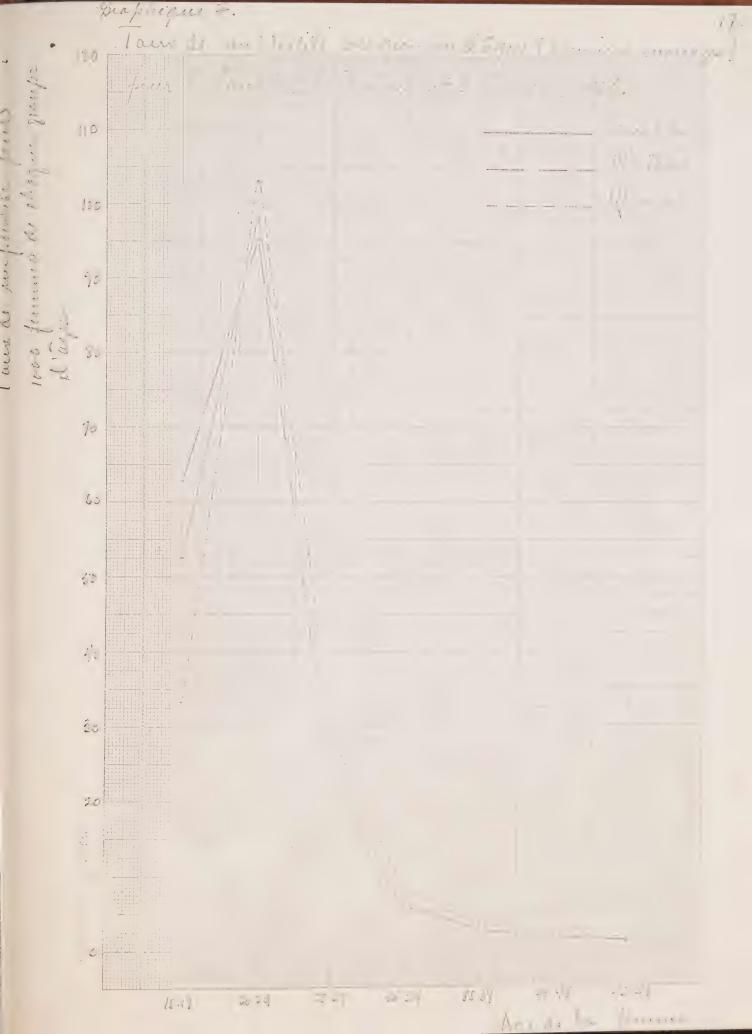
A glance at provincial rates shows that annual variations are more pronounced, due no doubt to the smaller populations involved. On the other hand, the rising trend of the younger groups occurs everywhere, whilst rates for the over 30s tend to level off at a very low figure. One interesting fact is that trends in Quebec differ from those in the English provinces. Rates for the 15-19 group are much lower, in fact they are practically the same as the 25-29 rates, whereas the over 20 rates are slightly higher towards the end of the period. (Tables 2 to 12, and Charts 7 to 10, give marriage rates for single persons by provinces).

The overwhelming majority of marriages, 91.3% in 1966, occur between single persons, and these are the marriages which effectively determine the marriage rate for Canada. In view of the relatively small proportion of second marriages, trends relating to this phenomenon will be given only in the methodological section of this report. We shall now look at the results of our projections.
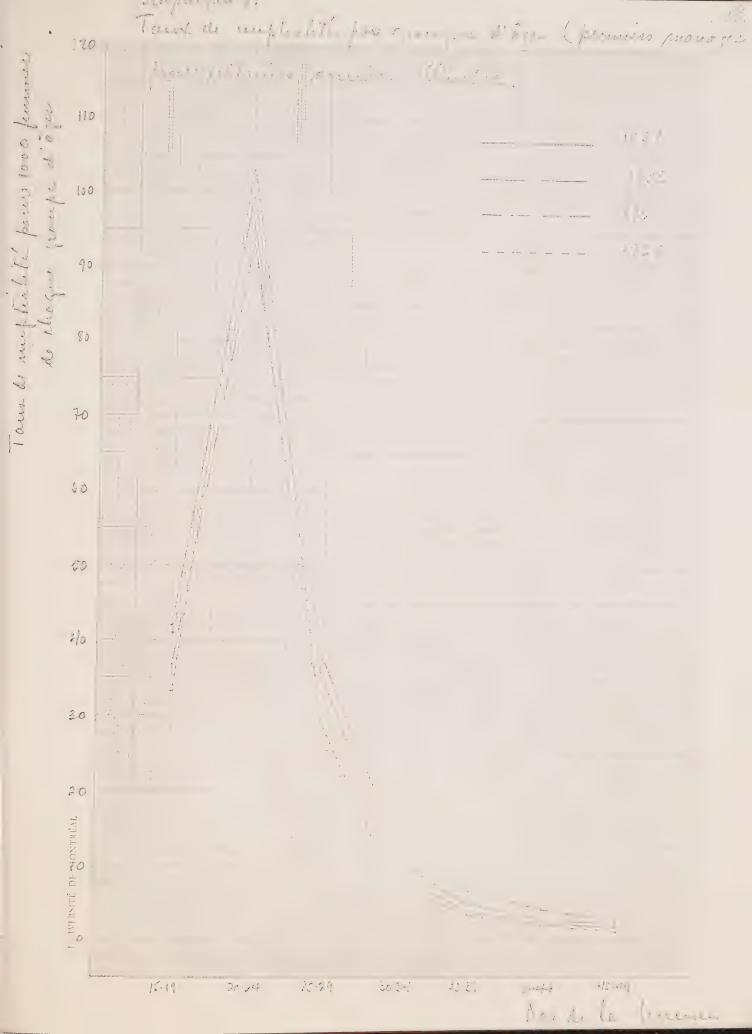
Graphique 6.

Taux de nuptialité par groupe d'âge (premières noces)
pour certaines années, France.

Taux de nuptialité pour 1000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âge.

120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10

15-19   20-24   25-29   30-34   35-39   40-44   45-49

Âge de la femme

Graphique 2.

Graphique 4.
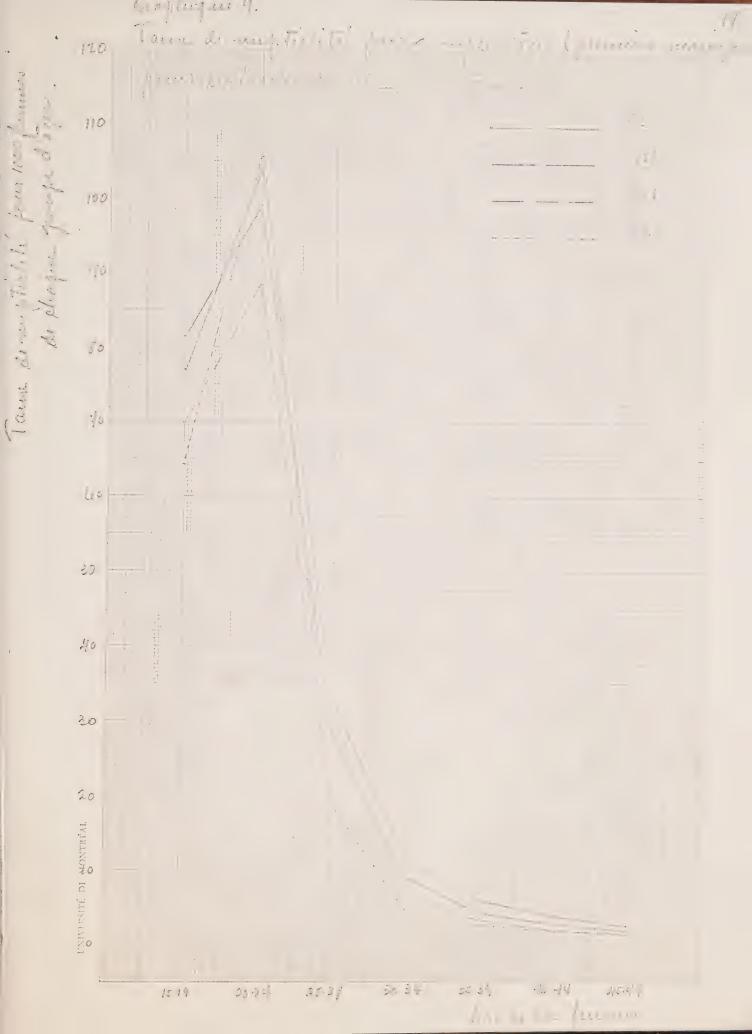
Tableau 2. Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Canada, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges).

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	54.23	57.23	60.36	59.30	61.47	61.21	61.04	65.41	64.78
20-24	92.35	94.27	99.00	99.72	100.99	97.66	96.17	98.10	95.90
25-29	35.37	34.17	33.36	32.02	31.58	30.20	29.88	30.07	28.64
30-34	12.63	12.15	11.99	11.50	11.22	10.55	9.88	9.55	9.34
35-39	6.61	6.02	5.72	5.48	5.16	4.70	4.45	4.35	4.31
40-45	3.47	3.50	3.44	3.11	3.13	2.80	2.63	2.44	2.36
45-49	2.06	1.84	2.13	1.87	1.94	1.85	1.67	1.72	1.62

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	63.88	62.93	61.02	57.73	55.17	51.03	50.53	51.35	52.42
20-24	91.98	93.06	90.85	90.24	91.24	92.07	95.20	96.03	98.14
25-29	27.11	25.93	23.96	22.30	21.07	20.81	21.21	21.89	23.04
30-34	8.53	8.21	7.94	7.46	6.80	6.62	6.23	6.24	6.34
35-39	4.03	4.02	3.49	3.36	3.14	2.92	2.85	2.83	2.83
40-44	2.15	1.96	1.95	1.89	1.74	1.69	1.70	1.67	1.61
45-49	1.54	1.44	1.39	1.37	1.13	1.13	1.08	1.06	1.07

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 3 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Terre-Neuve, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	50.24	50.75	55.00	59.42	61.33	63.09	69.01	65.45	61.44
20-24	65.13	72.40	78.27	85.00	84.57	90.65	90.78	88.18	85.21
25-29	26.59	28.02	26.53	26.40	24.02	27.34	31.41	27.72	27.56
30-34	8.28	8.62	9.83	10.09	9.49	8.14	11.02	7.44	8.14
35-39	3.88	3.98	4.45	4.29	4.25	4.04	5.17	4.32	3.25
40-45	1.65	1.22	2.94	2.00	2.23	2.35	1.94	1.43	2.22
45-49	0.29	0.99	1.29	1.53	1.60	1.15	0.74	1.45	1.61

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	64.97	61.00	62.67	65.75	64.12	60.38	61.06	56.37	56.81
20-24	81.56	77.64	85.03	88.99	87.32	85.18	85.44	82.53	93.06
25-29	24.49	22.02	21.73	21.42	19.61	19.01	17.89	20.82	19.42
30-34	6.83	6.28	7.13	7.24	4.56	5.04	3.47	4.63	4.46
35-39	3.06	2.42	2.54	1.53	2.10	1.83	1.98	2.56	2.07
40-44	1.47	1.73	1.53	1.15	0.53	0.96	1.14	0.71	0.98
45-49	1.33	0.74	1.41	1.55	0.85	1.12	0.56	1.01	0.92

Tableau 4 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Île-du-Prince-Édouard, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	42.33	42.38	45.12	43.17	51.43	44.63	57.80	52.93	53.17
20-24	72.50	72.86	66.88	80.91	78.24	82.42	96.77	97.67	88.67
25-29	23.82	29.39	28.12	32.19	24.06	22.67	23.57	22.22	24.40
30-34	10.33	8.33	9.68	6.77	9.03	7.00	6.21	11.43	11.11
35-39	5.00	4.00	4.52	4.84	4.19	4.19	3.67	3.79	4.14
40-45	3.48	4.17	4.40	2.69	3.70	2.14	2.76	1.38	2.41
45-49	2.00	1.50	0.95	0.45	1.74	0.43	1.30	—	2.50

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	53.10	55.24	56.51	55.12	60.25	55.00	46.46	49.04	49.82
20-24	80.31	89.38	89.03	93.00	92.50	98.12	104.84	112.26	106.06
25-29	25.77	22.59	29.26	14.81	21.00	19.33	19.33	15.52	23.93
30-34	6.67	4.23	10.77	5.77	6.43	4.64	3.93	4.81	5.00
35-39	6.07	2.50	6.21	3.79	4.83	2.14	2.86	1.48	1.54
40-44	1.07	1.07	1.43	2.14	2.07	1.72	1.43	3.21	0.36
45-49	2.00	0.80	1.92	0.74	0.36	0.36	0.71	2.14	0.36

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial anterieur, 1949-1966.
B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 5: Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Nouvelle-Écosse, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	55.82	61.27	59.81	64.79	64.27	66.64	65.70	73.02	66.11
20-24	80.36	81.22	88.15	93.68	95.57	91.54	91.40	90.25	88.60
25-29	29.88	25.85	30.21	28.26	27.81	23.89	26.44	27.79	25.05
30-34	10.43	11.19	10.25	10.85	10.00	9.70	7.62	8.70	6.64
35-39	6.21	4.86	4.52	5.00	3.97	3.70	3.81	4.15	4.01
40-45	3.49	3.37	2.90	2.59	2.60	2.32	1.90	2.18	1.78
45-49	1.66	1.56	2.12	1.27	1.56	1.51	1.15	1.81	1.76

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	69.65	68.98	68.21	67.85	62.15	57.44	55.97	56.47	55.77
20-24	82.07	89.92	86.05	87.82	90.49	84.31	89.65	92.69	99.01
25-29	21.89	19.67	20.09	19.49	18.31	19.20	18.33	20.24	19.62
30-34	7.50	7.03	6.00	5.83	4.84	6.17	6.18	5.64	6.03
35-39	3.65	3.62	2.98	2.81	2.28	2.23	3.32	2.84	2.95
40-44	1.91	1.28	2.14	1.93	1.38	1.52	1.86	1.42	1.67
45-49	1.66	1.70	1.30	1.20	1.17	0.86	1.14	0.90	1.09

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial anterieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 6 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Nouveau-Brunswick, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers marriages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	64.75	66.55	69.13	62.49	62.72	67.94	67.64	73.36	67.83
20-24	76.68	83.42	89.43	88.70	88.90	88.52	91.82	92.47	87.31
25-29	26.29	28.32	25.31	27.54	24.65	25.11	25.40	29.82	24.71
30-34	9.48	10.69	10.06	9.04	10.17	7.80	8.07	7.06	7.30
35-39	6.26	5.19	3.95	3.82	3.99	4.21	3.72	3.99	3.28
40-45	3.28	2.88	3.21	3.03	2.12	2.75	1.38	2.45	1.90
45-49	2.43	1.61	2.12	1.55	2.17	1.29	1.88	0.91	1.03

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	65.32	66.44	67.42	68.47	62.88	60.57	61.76	62.64	64.17
20-24	85.34	87.98	93.33	94.89	92.99	95.63	96.55	97.71	105.55
25-29	21.63	21.75	23.37	21.61	19.23	18.11	20.42	19.28	19.10
30-34	7.16	7.66	6.88	7.03	6.39	4.64	4.63	4.97	4.78
35-39	4.15	4.16	2.78	2.47	2.78	1.88	1.80	2.49	2.47
40-44	1.56	1.53	1.81	1.43	1.71	1.64	1.22	1.16	1.75
45-49	1.94	0.77	1.03	1.54	0.65	0.65	1.28	0.83	1.19

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial anterieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 7 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Québec, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	36.33	38.13	40.83	38.90	39.45	39.59	39.13	42.18	42.08
20-24	88.23	90.56	95.38	97.28	98.98	95.66	95.20	99.19	96.37
25-29	38.43	37.61	37.53	35.12	35.84	34.18	34.17	35.24	34.05
30-34	14.50	14.29	13.51	12.57	12.53	12.45	11.21	11.01	11.39
35-39	7.60	7.14	6.54	6.22	5.99	5.40	5.13	4.94	5.16
40-45	4.42	3.84	3.97	3.61	3.61	3.20	3.21	2.75	2.87
45-49	2.64	2.12	2.54	2.20	2.20	2.37	1.98	2.29	1.77

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	41.36	42.20	40.21	36.57	36.62	35.35	33.26	32.51	33.34
20-24	92.28	95.37	92.53	93.80	96.23	94.81	97.83	98.05	103.06
25-29	32.06	31.00	28.75	27.03	26.05	25.15	25.85	26.93	28.72
30-34	10.13	9.79	9.33	8.85	8.09	7.83	7.66	7.57	7.72
35-39	4.55	4.58	3.82	3.90	3.71	3.59	3.29	3.31	3.41
40-44	2.71	2.38	2.27	2.40	1.95	1.92	1.89	1.99	1.93
45-49	1.82	1.63	1.60	1.70	1.43	1.35	1.34	1.32	1.28

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'Etat civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 8: Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Ontario, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	68.02	73.53	76.78	75.50	76.55	74.89	74.04	81.40	80.49
20-24	98.82	99.04	103.76	102.96	103.71	101.05	98.29	99.02	97.29
25-29	35.81	34.44	33.30	31.76	31.18	29.52	28.67	28.60	26.72
30-34	12.70	11.74	12.14	12.08	11.07	10.24	9.96	9.39	8.73
35-39	6.74	5.93	5.83	5.80	5.31	4.58	4.46	4.30	4.14
40-45	3.25	3.75	3.64	3.17	3.19	2.86	2.72	2.57	2.28
45-49	2.02	1.83	2.26	2.03	2.03	1.97	1.88	1.64	1.72

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	78.45	75.97	73.46	69.68	64.9C	58.41	59.03	60.80	62.85
20-24	94.27	94.72	92.55	88.36	90.08	92.32	96.38	95.84	95.19
25-29	25.98	24.33	22.18	20.44	18.86	19.46	19.70	20.49	21.07
30-34	8.12	7.52	7.52	7.02	6.33	6.35	6.17	5.86	5.85
35-39	3.90	4.05	3.50	3.18	3.07	2.99	2.79	2.63	2.73
40-44	2.10	1.81	1.85	1.78	1.73	1.69	1.65	1.62	1.52
45-49	1.39	1.43	1.42	1.27	1.11	1.16	1.08	0.91	0.95

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1940-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 9 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Manitoba, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	54.56	57.41	64.13	60.80	67.07	64.95	69.08	68.09	67.88
20-24	94.10	100.03	106.34	103.02	102.84	99.90	98.93	98.01	95.59
25-29	38.23	33.47	31.66	31.14	31.86	27.05	27.66	26.76	25.40
30-34	12.29	10.62	11.42	10.07	10.78	9.58	8.86	8.08	7.44
35-39	6.12	5.51	5.63	4.83	4.39	4.80	4.26	3.85	3.73
40-45	3.47	3.04	3.11	2.80	3.24	2.85	2.62	1.91	1.72
45-49	1.53	1.36	1.90	1.44	2.11	1.76	1.09	1.54	1.03

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	67.85	69.01	67.10	62.58	60.25	57.44	55.78	55.00	52.67
20-24	90.97	92.96	92.64	93.69	90.47	97.75	98.85	99.84	103.84
25-29	24.69	23.39	22.50	20.65	18.26	18.99	20.11	19.35	21.82
30-34	7.10	7.11	7.03	7.50	6.10	5.69	4.16	5.35	6.29
35-39	3.26	4.17	3.10	3.46	2.82	2.61	2.32	2.66	2.21
40-44	1.78	1.68	1.53	1.80	1.73	1.82	1.53	1.59	1.48
45-49	1.13	1.21	1.18	1.19	0.77	0.91	0.98	0.83	1.04

Tableau 10 'Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Saskatchewan, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	52.40	55.29	56.14	59.91	65.71	66.84	64.23	62.91	66.15
20-24	95.51	97.89	99.01	100.35	100.94	94.60	92.17	95.84	100.18
25-29	32.13	28.96	28.87	28.18	25.99	26.66	24.36	22.29	23.27
30-34	10.27	9.70	9.07	8.37	8.76	8.26	6.75	7.66	6.92
35-39	3.84	3.72	3.48	3.75	3.81	3.66	2.76	2.98	3.13
40-45	1.58	2.04	1.54	1.78	2.04	1.63	1.71	1.65	1.49
45-49	1.04	0.67	1.24	0.90	0.68	0.86	0.97	1.24	1.05

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	70.21	67.60	67.89	64.80	62.20	60.26	59.85	60.12	61.35
20-24	95.82	96.06	91.32	93.71	91.13	95.81	96.59	103.51	101.41
25-29	22.53	22.01	19.26	19.10	17.30	16.95	17.59	17.42	18.57
30-34	6.10	5.80	6.06	5.39	5.53	5.80	4.63	4.28	4.55
35-39	3.14	2.98	2.41	3.02	2.10	1.72	2.11	2.20	1.64
40-44	1.22	1.45	2.11	1.42	1.28	0.93	1.51	1.26	1.31
45-49	0.98	0.94	1.37	1.02	0.77	0.88	0.53	0.94	0.94

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 11 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Alberta, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	66.94	69.25	71.86	72.58	80.24	70.19	76.67	80.73	82.77
20-24	103.78	107.47	105.99	106.59	111.75	103.96	99.97	98.27	95.58
25-29	34.03	33.57	31.19	31.09	30.15	29.03	30.02	26.96	25.31
30-34	10.90	10.58	11.20	9.78	10.67	9.36	9.54	8.41	9.20
35-39	6.03	5.44	5.17	4.39	4.51	4.62	3.64	3.95	3.11
40-45	2.89	2.60	2.29	2.40	2.34	1.90	2.23	1.82	2.05
45-49	1.52	1.76	0.95	1.48	1.28	1.57	1.17	1.09	1.32

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	79.58	83.28	83.12	78.32	73.75	64.97	62.71	64.78	64.63
20-24	94.20	89.74	89.08	87.63	84.64	83.98	89.92	91.73	93.38
25-29	24.95	24.22	21.00	20.24	18.70	16.39	17.19	16.72	17.72
30-34	7.56	9.11	6.88	6.59	6.66	6.00	5.32	5.71	5.14
35-39	3.74	3.42	3.40	3.37	2.88	2.60	2.53	2.76	2.52
40-44	2.12	1.91	1.58	1.64	1.74	1.54	1.52	1.57	1.22
45-49	1.23	1.36	1.19	1.15	1.17	0.88	0.78	0.93	0.94

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Tableau 12 : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux Colombie-Britannique, 1949-1966

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
15-19	64.55	63.95	71.88	66.86	70.88	69.92	72.50	79.79	80.02
20-24	96.80	95.13	104.59	104.24	104.89	100.08	97.41	102.33	98.18
25-29	35.31	34.94	32.11	31.38	29.89	30.42	27.68	28.66	28.13
30-34	13.17	12.82	11.77	12.02	11.42	10.80	9.62	9.74	9.62
35-39	6.68	6.64	6.37	5.47	5.15	4.50	4.54	4.29	4.83
40-45	3.29	4.10	3.64	3.40	3.38	3.03	2.34	2.61	2.67
45-49	2.29	2.51	2.04	1.88	2.01	1.17	1.44	1.51	1.80

Age	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
15-19	76.66	70.28	64.04	60.38	58.55	56.16	54.05	58.32	58.97
20-24	89.96	87.86	81.42	82.84	84.47	87.50	87.83	91.66	89.73
25-29	24.61	24.75	22.17	19.55	19.65	20.00	19.07	19.77	21.75
30-34	8.92	8.17	8.44	7.15	6.83	6.16	5.35	5.99	6.48
35-39	4.28	3.66	3.76	3.18	2.98	2.29	2.83	2.78	2.66
40-44	1.90	2.23	1.86	1.59	1.83	1.67	1.76	1.50	1.57
45-49	1.78	1.55	1.01	1.26	1.00	1.09	0.94	1.23	1.08

Sources: B.F.S.: Statistiques de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés: Mariages selon l'âge et l'état matrimonial antérieur, 1949-1966.

B.F.S.: Population 1921-1966, Revision des estimations annuelles de la population, juin 1968, cat. no. 91-511, pages 36-53.

Marriage Projections

Table 13 gives the results of our marriage projections for Canada and the provinces. Figures shown are the actual number of marriages expected providing our assumptions are proved correct.

Our basic assumptions were as follows:

- The marriage rate for single persons will have reached, by 1981, a level such that the definitive celibacy rate (percentage of persons in one generation who are still unmarried by age 50) is 5.0%.

- In order to reach this level, rates will increase or decrease in linear fashion between 1966 and 1981.

- The relationship of the marriage rate between various age groups will remain constant, which means that the average age at marriage of those who are single now will remain the same.

- The rate of second marriages during the period reviewed will remain constant until 1981.

Further details regarding these assumption will be found in the methodological section.

For Canada as a whole, these assumptions imply only a slight increase in the rates of the younger groups (Chart 10). The marriage projections shown in Table 13 were obtained by applying these rates to population projections worked out by the Canada Economic Council and revised by M.V. George and K.S. Gnanasekaran (Technical Memorandum, Population Estimates and Projections Series No. 2). There is a general increase in the number of marriages for Canada as a whole and for each of the provinces. There are variations however in the relative increases. The following are the relative numbers of marriages in 1981 compared with 1966 (1966 = 100)

Canada	149
Newfoundland	150
P.E.I.	133
Nova Scotia	132
New Brunswick	121

Tableau 13 : Perspectives de mariages

(Nombre annuel de mariages)

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Canada	155,596	162,681	169,181	175,741	182,191	188,492	194,430	200,077
Terre-Neuve	3,728	3,954	4,113	4,273	4,427	4,583	4,732	4,866
Île-du-Prince-Edouard	752	790	826	844	876	889	912	929
Nouvelle-Écosse	5,833	6,071	6,257	6,440	6,629	6,800	6,957	7,108
Nouveau-Brunswick	5,165	5,296	5,447	5,574	5,720	5,836	5,943	6,048
Québec	44,411	47,099	49,286	51,541	53,740	55,938	57,990	59,916
Ontario	54,571	56,757	58,995	61,230	63,402	65,557	67,592	69,534
Manitoba	7,312	7,618	7,854	8,092	8,329	8,542	8,729	8,905
Saskatchewan	6,987	7,265	7,445	7,631	7,786	7,937	8,084	8,193
Alberta	11,879	12,373	12,820	13,270	13,716	14,132	14,537	14,925
Colombie-Britannique	14,682	15,120	15,785	16,483	17,184	17,876	18,550	19,225
Yukon et Territoires du Nord-Ouest	276	338	353	363	382	402	404	428

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Canada	205,367	210,561	215,564	220,142	224,545	228,325	231,285	232,575
Terre-Neuve	4,998	5,116	5,235	5,338	5,449	5,507	5,575	5,578
Île-du-Prince-Edouard	951	965	988	991	1,006	1,021	1,020	997
Nouvelle-Écosse	7,240	7,358	7,474	7,564	7,652	7,707	7,745	7,707
Nouveau-Brunswick	6,129	6,208	6,266	6,321	6,346	6,344	6,329	6,254
Québec	61,731	63,545	65,363	67,115	68,807	70,406	71,735	72,682
Ontario	71,419	73,217	74,918	76,457	77,918	79,176	80,124	80,418
Manitoba	9,061	9,217	9,342	9,460	9,571	9,631	9,672	9,641
Saskatchewan	8,287	8,369	8,437	8,476	8,496	8,494	8,451	8,343
Alberta	15,279	15,628	15,954	16,247	16,523	16,758	16,914	16,940
Colombie-Britannique	19,851	20,502	21,137	21,720	22,316	22,814	23,243	23,536
Yukon et Territoires du Nord-Ouest	421	436	450	453	471	467	477	479

Quebec	164
Ontario	147
Manitoba	132
Saskatchewan	119
Alberta	143
British Columbia	160

One might be led to think that the increase in the number of marriages is a mere reflection of the population growth. Such, however, is not the case. First, our assumptions imply an increase in the marriage rate and, secondly, the crude marriage rates as determined for the projection period show an increase until 1979, after which a decline sets in which may not be due to any change in the marriage rate, but to a shift in the make-up of the overall population by age groups (Chart 11).

Graphique II.

... ... Canada 1851. 1881

10.0

9.0

8.0

7.0

6.0

Marriage Projections

Methodology

The formula used for the marriage projections is that described by Louis Henry in "Perspectives démographiques"[1]. The peculiarities of Canadian statistics called for certain adjustments, but in making these every care was taken to respect the principles laid down by the author.

The total number of marriages celebrated each year is the sum of four components:

- marriages of spinsters under 50 (first marriage)
- marriages of spinsters over 50
- marriages of widows
- marriages of divorcees

Marriages of spinsters under 50 are by far the preponderant component of the marriage rate.

1. Henry, Louis: Perspectives démographiques, Editions de l'I.N.E.D. 1964, pages 57-69.

Marriage Estimates for Spinsters under 50

In order to estimate the number of marriages involving spinsters under 50, we established the marriage rate for the 1949-66 period (Tables 2 to 12). These rates can be defined as follows: the relation between the number of spinsters in a 5-year age group who marry and the estimated total female population of that age group. The rates were then projected to 1981.

The 1981 limits were based on the following findings from which we drew certain inferences:

1. The marriage rates for the 30-34, 35-39, 40-44 and 45-49 age groups declined slowly until 1960, after which they levelled off, giving

grounds for the assumption that they would remain constant until 1981 (Chart 5).

2.   Rates for the 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29 groups varied more considerably, making it difficult to determine limits for 1981. We accordingly resorted to the "definitive celibacy" concept, i.e. the percentage of women reaching age 50 as spinsters. We used several censuses to calculate the Canadian percentage and the 1966 census for the Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia figures (see Table A). Before accepting these percentages as truly representative of the definitive celibacy rate, we had to assume that the mortality and migration rates would not vary according to marital status. The percentage figures tend to diminish from one group of generations to the next. The rate for the 50-54 age group dropped from 10.9% in 1951 to 9.5% in 1966 and, what is more significant, women in the 1966 40-44 group had achieved a lower rate than the generations in the previous 5-year group. Furthermore, certain areas in Canada, Ontario and British Columbia in particular, have already almost reached the 5% rate.

We accordingly set the 1981 limit at 5%. We then adjusted the marriage rates on the basis of this assumption, in such a way that a fictitious generation marrying at the projected rates would achieve a definitive celibacy rate of 5% at age 50. Since we had set the rates for the over 30s, we adjusted the rates of the 15-19, 20-24 and 25-29 age groups. Furthermore, we assumed variations would occur in the marriage rate, but not in the timing. Actually, we proceeded as follows:

(a) the marriage rates of the various age groups from 15 to 50 were made to add to 950 o/oo;

(b) the sum of the over 30 rates was deducted from 950 o/oo to give the level to be achieved by the 15-29 age groups;
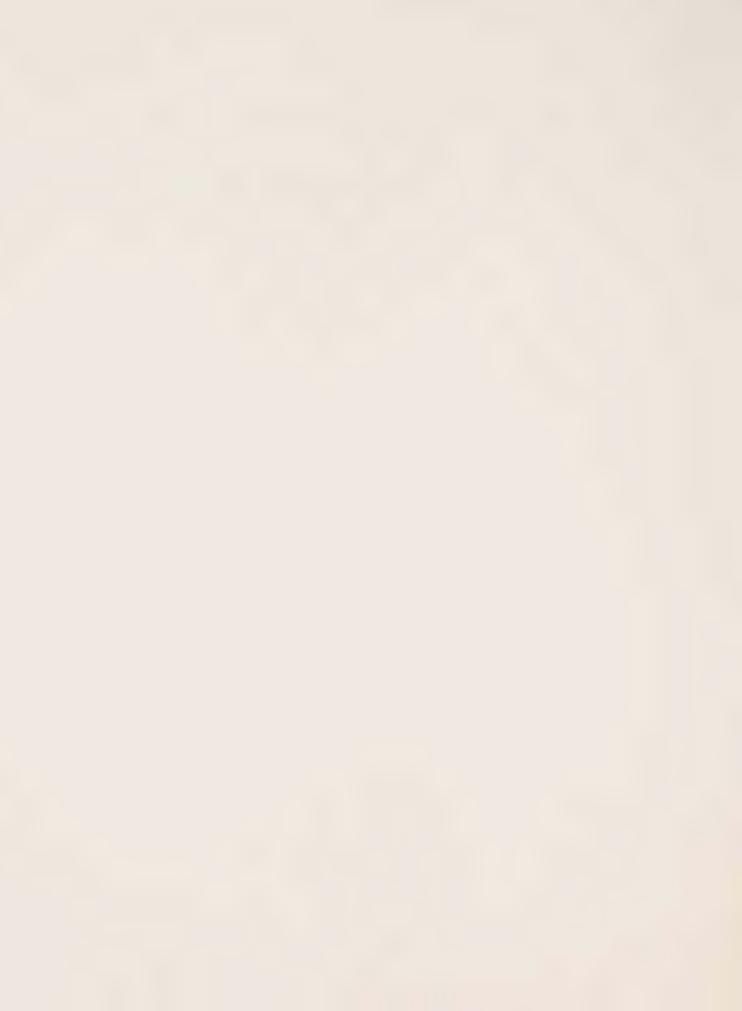
Tableau A:

Pourcentage des femmes célibataires à divers âges par rapport aux femmes du même âge.

des femmes	1951	1956	1961	1966	Québec 1966	Ontario 1966	C.brit. 1966
40-44	12.2	10.6	8.9	7.6	11.5	5.9	5.4
45-49	11.7	10.9	9.5	7.9	12.0	6.5	5.4
50-54	10.9	10.9	10.4	9.5	14.3	8.0	6.5
55-59	10.2	10.2	10.4	10.2	14.9	8.8	6.9

(c) the relationship between these rates was assumed to be constant (stability of timing);

(d) having thus determined the rate for 1981, rates for the intervening years were filled in (see projections in Tables B to L).

Tableau B : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Canada, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	52.51	52.60	52.69	52.78	52.87	52.96	53.04	53.14
20-24	98.31	98.48	98.65	98.82	98.99	99.16	99.33	99.50
25-29	23.08	23.12	23.16	23.20	23.24	23.28	23.32	23.36
30-34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34
35-39	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83
40-44	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61
45-49	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	53.23	53.32	53.41	53.50	53.59	53.68	53.79
20-24	99.67	99.84	100.01	100.18	100.35	100.52	100.71
25-29	23.40	23.44	23.48	23.52	23.56	23.60	23.64
30-34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34	6.34
35-39	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83
40-44	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.61
45-49	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07

Tableau C : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Terre-Neuve, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	57.08	57.35	57.62	57.89	58.16	58.43	58.70	58.97
20-24	93.51	93.96	94.41	94.86	95.31	95.76	96.21	96.66
25-29	19.51	19.60	19.69	19.78	19.87	19.96	20.05	20.14
30-34	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46
35-39	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07
40-44	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98
45-49	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	59.24	59.51	59.78	60.05	60.32	60.59	60.93
20-24	97.11	97.56	98.01	98.46	98.91	99.36	99.81
25-29	20.23	20.32	20.41	20.50	20.59	20.68	20.83
30-34	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46	4.46
35-39	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07
40-44	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98
45-49	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92

Tableau D : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Île-du-Prince-Édouard, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	49.84	49.86	49.88	49.90	49.92	49.94	49.96	49.98
20-24	106.10	106.14	106.18	106.22	106.26	106.30	106.34	106.38
25-29	23.94	23.95	23.96	23.97	23.98	23.99	24.00	24.01
30-34	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
35-39	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54
40-44	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67
45-49	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	50.00	50.02	50.04	50.05	50.06	50.07	50.07
20-24	106.42	106.46	106.50	106.54	106.58	106.62	106.60
25-29	24.02	24.03	24.04	24.05	2.405	24.05	24.05
30-34	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
35-39	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54	1.54
40-44	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67
45-49	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07

Tableau E : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Nouvelle-Écosse, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	55.85	55.93	56.01	56.09	56.17	56.25	56.33	56.41
20-24	99.16	99.31	99.46	99.61	99.76	99.91	100.06	100.21
25-29	19.65	19.68	19.71	19.74	19.77	19.80	19.83	19.86
30-34	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03
35-39	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95
40-44	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67
45-49	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	56.49	56.57	56.65	56.73	56.81	56.89	57.00
20-24	100.36	100.51	100.66	100.81	100.96	101.11	101.20
25-29	19.89	19.92	19.95	19.98	20.01	20.04	20.05
30-34	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03	6.03
35-39	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95
40-44	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67
45-49	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09

Tableau F: Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Nouveau-Brunswick, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	64.17	63.97	63.77	63.57	63.37	63.17	62.97	62.77
20-24	105.21	104.87	104.53	104.19	103.85	103.51	103.17	102.83
25-29	19.04	18.98	18.92	18.86	18.80	18.74	18.68	18.62
30-34	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78
35-39	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47
40-44	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
45-49	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	62.57	62.37	62.17	61.97	61.77	61.57	61.11
20-24	102.49	102.15	101.81	101.47	101.13	100.79	100.52
25-29	18.56	18.50	18.44	18.38	18.32	18.26	18.19
30-34	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78	4.78
35-39	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47	2.47
40-44	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
45-49	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19	1.19

Tableau G : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Québec, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	33.48	33.62	33.76	33.90	34.04	34.18	34.32	34.46
20-24	103.50	103.94	104.38	104.82	105.26	105.70	105.14	106.58
25-29	28.84	28.96	29.08	29.20	29.32	29.44	29.56	29.68
30-34	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72
35-39	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41
40-44	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93
45-49	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	34.60	34.74	34.88	35.02	35.16	35.30	35.47
20-24	107.02	107.46	107.90	108.34	108.78	109.22	109.64
25-29	29.80	29.92	30.08	30.20	30.32	30.44	30.55
30-34	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72	7.72
35-39	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41	3.41
40-44	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.93
45-49	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28

Tableau H: Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Ontario, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85
20-24	95.19	95.19	95.19	95.19	95.19	95.19	95.19	95.19
25-29	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07
30-34	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85
35-39	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73
40-44	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52
45-49	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.85	62.79
20-24	95.19	95.19	95.10	95.10	95.10	95.10	95.10
25-29	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.07	21.05
30-34	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85	5.85
35-39	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73	2.73
40-44	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.52
45-49	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95

Tableau I : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Manitoba, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	52.68	52.69	52.70	52.71	52.72	52.73	52.74	52.75
20-24	103.86	103.88	103.90	103.92	103.94	103.96	103.98	104.00
25-29	21.82	21.82	21.82	21.82	21.82	21.86	21.86	21.86
30-34	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29
35-39	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
40-44	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
45-49	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	52.76	52.77	52.78	52.79	52.80	52.83	52.86
20-24	104.02	104.04	104.08	104.12	104.16	104.20	104.21
25-29	21.86	21.86	21.90	21.90	21.90	21.90	21.90
30-34	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29	6.29
35-39	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21	2.21
40-44	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48	1.48
45-49	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.04

Tableau J. Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Saskatchewan, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLÉS

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	61.35	61.35	61.35	61.35	61.35	61.40	61.40	61.40
20-24	101.42	101.43	101.44	101.45	101.46	101.47	101.48	101.49
25-29	18.57	18.57	18.57	18.57	18.57	18.57	18.57	18.57
30-34	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
35-39	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64
40-44	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31
45-49	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	61.40	61.40	61.43	61.43	61.43	61.43	61.43
20-24	101.50	101.51	101.52	101.53	101.54	101.54	101.54
25-29	18.57	18.57	18.58	18.59	18.59	18.59	18.59
30-34	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55	4.55
35-39	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64	1.64
40-44	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31
45-49	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94

Tableau K : Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Alberta, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	64.74	64.85	64.96	65.07	65.18	65.29	65.40	65.41
20-24	93.54	93.70	93.86	94.02	94.08	94.24	94.40	94.56
25-29	17.75	17.78	17.81	17.84	17.87	17.90	17.93	17.96
30-34	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14
35-39	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52
40-44	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22
45-49	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	65.52	65.63	65.74	65.85	65.96	66.07	66.27
20-24	94.72	94.88	95.04	95.20	95.36	95.52	95.74
25-29	17.99	18.02	18.05	18.05	18.11	18.14	18.17
30-34	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14	5.14
35-39	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.52
40-44	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22
45-49	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94

Tableau L. Taux de nuptialité par groupes d'âges quinquennaux, Colombie-Britannique, 1967-1981

TAUX EXTRAPOLES

(Nombre de premiers mariages pour 1,000 femmes de chaque groupe d'âges)

Age	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
15-19	59.15	59.33	59.51	.59.69	59.87	60.05	60.23	60.41
20-24	90.00	90.27	90.54	90.81	91.08	91.35	91.62	91.89
25-29	21.82	21.89	21.96	22.03	22.10	22.17	22.24	22.31
30-34	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48
35-39	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66
40-44	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57
45-49	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08

Age	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
15-19	60.59	60.77	60.95	61.13	61.31	61.49	61.65
20-24	96.16	92.43	92.70	92.97	93.14	93.41	93.81
25-29	22.38	22.45	22.52	22.59	22.66	22.73	22.74
30-34	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48	6.48
35-39	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66	2.66
40-44	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.57
45-49	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08

Estimated Marriage Rates for Spinsters over 50

Marriages involving spinsters over 50 were related to the female population of the 50-64 age group, since very few spinsters marry after their 65th year. We assumed that the average rate for the last ten years would remain constant until 1981 (Tables M and N, Chart 12).

TABLEAU M. Nuptialité des célibataires de plus de 50 ans

(Nombre de premiers mariages de célibataires de 50 ans et plus pour 1000 femmes de 50-64 ans)

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	Moyenne 57-66
CANADA(1)	.74	.76	.76	.73	.71	.71	.65	.73	.63	.60	.70
Terre-Neuve	.44	.59	.37	.26	.25	.34	.37	.27	.57	.64	.41
Île-du-Prince-Édouard ..	.52	.86	.33	.66	.17	.65	.81	.63	.31	.61	.56
Nouvelle-Écosse	.83	.90	.88	.50	.65	.69	.51	.74	.87	.38	.70
Nouveau-Brunswick	.65	.54	.72	.64	.60	.67	.78	.53	.69	.56	.64
Québec	.83	.81	.86	.88	.82	.78	.76	.86	.72	.64	.80
Ontario	.78	.85	.79	.79	.76	.77	.71	.78	.62	.67	.75
Manitoba	.52	.53	.69	.54	.41	.64	.38	.63	.58	.52	.54
Saskatchewan	.33	.30	.31	.29	.46	.41	.24	.23	.32	.35	.32
Alberta	.51	.50	.50	.53	.51	.47	.41	.53	.41	.46	.48
Colombie-Brittannique ..	.86	.90	.91	.73	.82	.71	.69	.69	.66	.65	.76

(1) Le taux canadien a été appliqué aux Territoires.
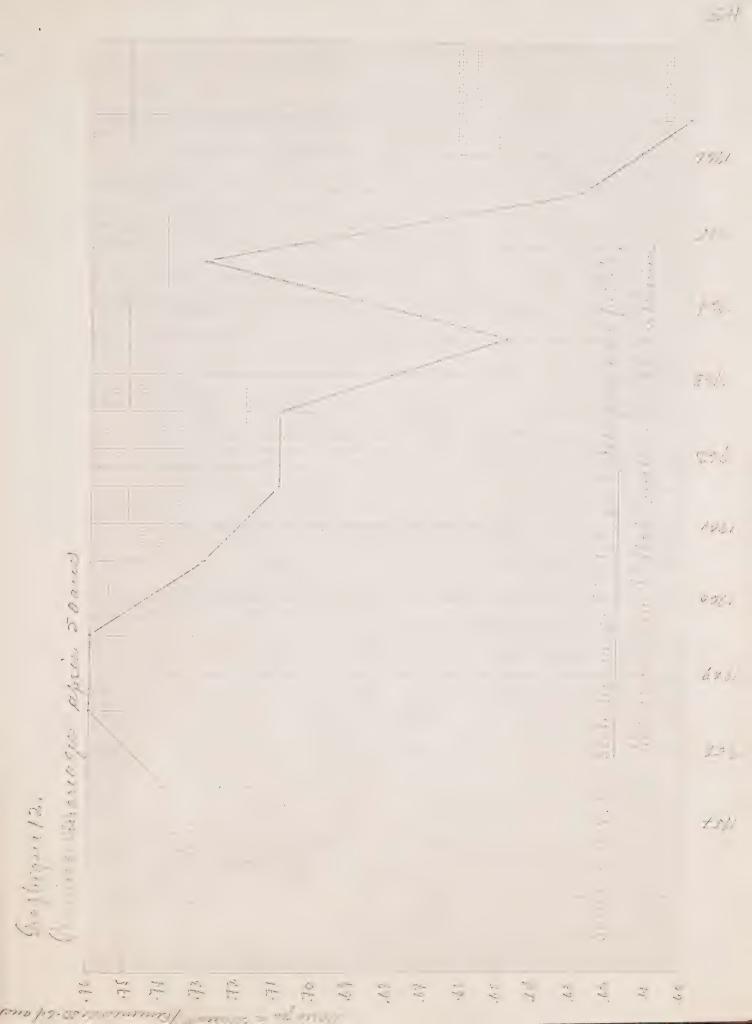
TABLEAU N. Premiers mariages après 50 ans 1967-1981

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
CANADA	884	908	933	958	986	1,014	1,043	1,073
Terre-Neuve	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	11
Île-du-Prince-Édouard ...	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	4
Nouvelle-Écosse	34	34	35	36	37	38	38	39
Nouveau-Brunswick	23	24	24	25	25	26	26	27
Québec	277	285	293	303	309	317	326	334
Ontario	344	354	364	374	386	397	409	421
Manitoba	36	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
Saskatchewan	20	20	20	21	21	22	22	23
Alberta	41	42	44	46	37	49	51	53
Colombie-Britannique	97	101	104	107	111	114	118	122
Yukon et T. N.-O.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
CANADA	1,101	1,126	1,149	1,169	1,186	1,202	1,216
Terre-Neuve	11	11	12	12	12	12	12
Île-du-Prince-Édouard ...	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
Nouvelle-Écosse	40	41	41	42	42	43	43
Nouveau-Brunswick	27	28	29	29	29	30	30
Québec	342	349	355	360	364	368	371
Ontario	433	443	452	460	467	474	480
Manitoba	43	44	45	46	46	47	47
Saskatchewan	23	24	24	24	25	25	25
Alberta	55	57	58	60	62	63	64
Colombie-Britannique	126	130	133	136	139	142	145
Yukon et T. N.-O.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Estimated Marriage Rate for Widows

There is a close relationship between the marriage rate for widows and the number of newly widowed women. We therefore used the deaths of married men in the 15-64 age groups as a basis for our estimates (since very old widows seldom remarry, we disregarded deaths of men over 65). Having established the relationship between marriages involving widows and deaths of married men in the 15-64 age groups over the past five years, we assumed this relationship would remain constant until 1981. We also assumed that mortality rates would be uniform across Canada and applied the Canadian rates to the provinces. (The quality of projections available for provincial populations made it pointless to push our analysis any further for the purpose of estimating marriage rates for widows). (Tables O and P).

The formula for projecting marriages of widows to 1981 was the following:

Number of widows remarrying = Men between 15 and 64 years of age

    x mortality rate

    x percentage decedents who were married

    x percentage of widows who remarry.

TABLEAU O. Décès d'hommes mariés et remariages de veuves, Canada, 1961-1965(1)

Année	Décès d'hommes mariés de 15-64 ans par rapport aux décès totaux du même groupe d'âges (pourcentage)	Remariages de veuves par rapport aux décès d'hommes mariés de 15-64 ans (pourcentage)
1961	71.7	33.8
1962	72.0	32.2
1963	71.4	32.4
1964	71.5	32.1
1965	71.9	31.7
Moyenne	71.7	32.4

(1) Les statistiques de 1966 n'étaient disponibles au moment où ce travail a été réalisé.

TABLEAU P. Remariages de veuves, 1967-1981

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Canada	7,334	7,513	7,696	7,883	8,075	8,269	8,466	8,660
Terre-Neuve	168	171	175	179	183	187	192	196
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	36	37	37	38	38	39	39	40
Nouvelle-Écosse	267	272	277	282	286	291	296	300
Nouveau-Brunswick	211	216	220	224	228	232	237	241
Québec	2,131	2,188	2,246	2,305	2,365	2,426	2,487	2,549
Ontario	2,587	2,653	2,722	2,790	2,862	2,935	3,009	3,081
Manitoba	347	354	360	367	374	380	387	394
Saskatchewan	339	343	348	353	358	363	367	371
Alberta	529	540	552	564	578	591	604	618
Colombie-Britannique	702	722	742	763	785	807	829	852
Yukon et T. N.-O.	17	17	17	17	18	18	19	18

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Canada	8,859	9,052	9,240	9,425	9,602	9,769	9,911
Terre-Neuve	200	203	207	211	214	217	219
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	40	41	41	42	41	42	42
Nouvelle-Écosse	305	310	314	318	321	324	326
Nouveau-Brunswick	245	249	253	256	259	262	264
Québec	2,610	2,672	2,730	2,788	2,844	2,897	2,943
Ontario	3,157	3,230	3,303	3,375	3,445	3,511	3,568
Manitoba	402	407	413	418	424	429	432
Saskatchewan	375	379	383	386	389	391	393
Alberta	630	644	656	668	680	691	700
Colombie-Britannique	876	898	920	943	965	985	1,004
Yukon et T. N.-O.	19	19	20	20	20	20	20

Estimating the Number of Divorced Women who will Remarry

In order to estimate the number of divorced women who will remarry, we determined the relationship between marriages involving divorced women and divorces granted during the year. We found that during the ten years prior to the projection period, the Canadian average was 70%. We then assumed that this rate would remain constant until 1981.

The rate varies in most provinces, due to particular provincial divorce procedures. Since there seemed to be little consistency, we used the Canadian average for the provinces. Any error would likely be negligible, in view of the total number of marriages involved.

Our estimate of the number of divorced women who will remarry is based on projections of divorces obtained by a formula to be described later. Marriages involving divorced women used in our marriage projections are based on the assumption that the divorce situation which prevailed in 1966 will remain unchanged until 1981. In view of the liberalisation of our divorce legislation, our figures no doubt represent a minimum. However, since second marriages constitute but very small proportion of the overall figure, we felt it was pointless to attempt to calculate divorce rates, which would have little real basis in the light of available divorce statistics (Table G).

TABLEAU Q. Remariages de divorcées, 1967-1981.

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Canada	7,029	7,121	7,231	7,364	7,520	7,668	7,843	8,031
Terre-Neuve	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	12
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	12	12	12	12	13	13	13	13
Nouvelle-Écosse	285	296	288	291	294	298	301	305
Nouveau-Brunswick	142	143	144	146	148	151	153	155
Québec	449	456	464	474	484	496	510	525
Ontario	2,892	2,930	2,976	3,032	3,094	3,159	3,231	3,308
Manitoba	368	368	369	370	373	375	379	384
Saskatchewan	224	224	224	225	227	228	230	233
Alberta	1,112	1,130	1,149	1,170	1,193	1,218	1,245	1,275
Colombie britannique	1,507	1,533	1,565	1,602	1,651	1,686	1,735	1,787
Yukon et T. N.-O.	27	28	29	31	32	32	34	34

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Canada	8,246	8,477	8,715	8,957	9,193	9,446	9,702
Terre-Neuve	13	13	13	14	14	15	15
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	13	14	14	14	15	15	15
Nouvelle-Écosse	309	314	320	325	331	337	344
Nouveau-Brunswick	159	162	165	167	170	173	176
Québec	541	559	577	595	615	635	655
Ontario	3,398	3,495	3,595	3,691	3,793	3,897	4,004
Manitoba	390	397	404	410	417	425	432
Saskatchewan	236	239	243	246	249	253	256
Alberta	1,307	1,341	1,377	1,412	1,448	1,485	1,521
Colombie britannique	1,845	1,907	1,971	2,045	2,104	2,173	2,246
Yukon et T. N.-O.	35	36	36	38	37	38	38

Divorce in Canada

Divorce is one of the forms the dissolution of a marriage can take. Until now, divorce has not been a common phenomenon in Canadian society. However, the Canadian Parliament has just adopted new legislation liberalising the divorce process. As we cross the threshold of a new era, it is of interest to determine how prevalent the phenomenon has been up to the present.

The purpose of this short study is to use official statistics to determine what has been the recent divorce trend in Canada, to project this trend to 1981 and to point up some of the demographic, social and cultural characteristics of divorced women. But before reviewing the results obtained, attention should be drawn to certain facts regarding official divorce statistics. The first of these is that official statistics contain very little information about divorce. Annual vital statistics give the number of divorces in Canada and in the provinces and they show the divorce rate per 100,000 population. A breakdown of divorces according to the petitioning party is also available. But, to undertake a proper study of divorce, one would require far more detailed statistics, including the following characteristics of the spouses:

- age of spouses at time of divorce
- age of spouses at time of marriage
- duration of marriage at time of divorce
- number of children
- alleged grounds for divorce
- cultural and socio-economic characteristics.

The second point concerns the statistics provided by the Canada census. Answers to the marital status question give the numbers of divorced persons. It would therefore be possible to determine some of the

characteristics of the divorced population at the time of the census, if not at the time of the divorce. Unfortunately, except for age and profession, all tables drawn up according to marital status and cultural and economic characteristics lump widows and divorced women into the one category, whereas tables based on the characteristics of the head of the household have a category for "divorced women".

We also asked the provincial Departments of Justice for statistics on legal separations. Several provinces failed to reply and the others stated that they kept no statistics on the subject. The appendices contain copies of correspondence exchanged with these Departments.

In spite of the limitations imposed by a lack of statistics, we did what we could with the available facts in an attempt to throw some light on the development of divorce in Canada and on some of the characteristics of the divorced population. By and large, we confined our work to the female population.

In this section, we shall proceed by stages as follows:

- characteristics of the population of divorced women
- analysis of divorces
- divorce projections

Characteristics of the Population of Divorced Women

The following is an analysis of the statistics provided by the Canada census. The first characteristic considered is age. The last four Canada censuses give the distribution of women by five-year age groups and by marital status. From these figures, we have calculated the percentage of divorced women in relation to the total number of married and divorced women in each age group. These figures are comparable provided we assume that marital status does not affect mortality or migration rates. Using

but a single census, we can compare the percentages applicable to the various

age groups. For instance, the percentage of divorced women in 35-39 age

group can be compared with that in the 45-49 group. The result is of little

interest, but comparisons from one census to the next are more significant.

Trends set by groups over a 15-year period (1951-1966) can be observed and

comparisons can be made between the various groups of women as each in turn

reaches a certain age. Table 14 shows the divorce rate for each 1951 age

group and for each census year. Chart 13 illustrates the phenomenon

graphically. The significance of the chart is as follows:

- Each graph represents a five-generation group, as indicated by

years of birth (approximate);

- The four points of each graph correspond with the age group

the generations had reached at each census.

The conclusions to be drawn from the chart can be summed up as

follows:

- The more recent the generation, the more divorced women it

contains at any particular age, as is shown by the fact that the graphs

representing the more recent generations (those to the left of the page) tend

to be more vertical.

- A word of caution is in order about the larger proportion of

divorced women after age 45. This may reflect a relative, not a true, increase

in numbers due to increased numbers of widows, for which our index makes no

allowance. The phenomenon is particularly striking for the 1902-1906 and

1907-1911 generations.

Age at which Divorced Women First Married

We found some interesting facts about the age at which divorced women

first married in a paper by J. Henripin on Canadian fertility rates, entitled

Tendances et facteurs de la fécondité au Canada. It contains a comparative

Graphique : 13. Evolution de la proportion des ...

1300
1200
1100
1000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300

15-19   20-24   25-29   30-34   ..-39   40-47   ..-5.   55-59

TABLEAU 14. Nombre de divorcées pour 100,000 femmes mariées
et divorcées aux divers recensements

Âge en 1951	Année du recensement				Années de naissance
	1951	1956	1961	1966	
				140	1947-1951
			95	359	1942-1946
		97	261	695	1937-1941
15-19	48	214	489	823	1932-1936
20-24	206	405	652	940	1927-1931
25-29	448	567	795	1,025	1922-1926
30-34	676	739	955	1,156	1917-1921
35-39	829	920	1,113	1,236	1912-1916
40-44	912	916	1,133	1,176	1907-1911
45-49	803	803	978	1,015	1902-1906
50-54	711	617	844	876	1897-1901
55-59	505	493	643	650	1892-1896
60-64	403	366	490	538	1887-1891

Source: B.F.S. Recensement du Canada 1951, Bulletin 2-1, tableau 1
" " " " 1956, " 1-12 tableau 28
" " " " 1961, " 1-3.1, tableau 78
" " " " 1966, " 1-1-13, tableau 34

table of the average age of women at first marriage according to marital status and level of education. The following is part of Table 5.8 to be found on page 40 of the above paper:

Women aged 35-39 in 1961

Educational level	Married women	Husband present	Divorced
Elementary	21.8	21.9	20.3
Secondary	22.6	22.6	21.4
University (no degree)	24.0	24.0	23.1
University graduate	25.3	25.3	21.7
All levels	22.4	22.4	21.3

At all levels of education, ages were lower for divorced women, but they were particularly so in the case of university graduates.

The fact observed in Canada that on average divorced women had married younger is also true of the United-States. In the latter country, almost 50% of the women who obtained a divorce in 1963 had married before reaching the age of 20, whereas only 25% of 1963 divorces involved women who had married at 25 or over. It has been established in the United-States that women who marry before they are 20 have greater chances of divorcing. This finding is based on the fact that almost 50% of divorced women were married before they had reached the age of 20, whereas only 30% of marriages involve brides under 20.

The Labour Force and Divorced Women

Figures used in this section were taken from Bulletin 3.1-9 of the 1961 Census. The first interesting finding is the high employment rate (73.2%) of divorced women. This is almost equal to the 77.7% set by the total male population or the 78.4% set by divorced men. It is distinctly higher than the rate achieved by any other category of women; the rate for spinsters being only 54.2%.

Divorced women represent only 1.3% of the total female labour force. The distribution of divorced women among the main professional categories used

in the census reveals that 36% had clerical occupations, 25% were in the service sector, 10% had a craft, and nearly 10% were in the professions (see Table 15 for full distribution). Comparison of these figures with those of the overall female labour force reveals that divorced women are over-represented in the following categories:

- Managerial
- Clerical
- Service
- Transportation and Communications

In the case of divorced men, percentages were largest in the craftsmen, service and managerial categories, in that order. Divorced men are over-represented in the following categories: clerical, sales, service and transportation, craftsmen and production workers. However, the distribution of divorced men more closely follows the general pattern of the male labour force than the distribution of divorced women does that of the female labour force.

Divorced Women as Heads of Families

In this section, we shall examine the distribution of divorced women heads of families according to the number of children at home. Figures have been extracted from Bulletin 2.1-7 of the 1961 census.

In 1961, only 0.4% of all heads of families were divorced, 0.1% being men and 0.3% women.

Only 4.8% of all women heads of families were divorced. By far the greatest proportion (78.5%) were widows.

The proportion of divorced women who head families is increasing. The percentage gas grown from 3.3 in 1951, to 4.2 in 1956 and 4.8 in 1961, an increase of 45.0%. Over the same period, the proportion of heads of families who were women dropped by 13.8%

TABLEAU 15. Répartition proportionnelle de la main-d'oeuvre selon l'état matrimonial et la profession

	Hommes					Femmes				
	Total	Célib.	Mariés	Veufs	Div.	Total	Célib.	Mariées	Veuves	Div.
Toutes professions	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0
Administrateurs	102.3	28.7	126.4	92.5	103.3	32.6	15.3	42.0	69.6	51.5
Prof. lib. et tech.	75.8	76.1	76.4	40.1	65.6	154.2	209.9	115.9	97.3	95.9
Employés de bureau	69.0	96.0	56.7	53.2	73.9	288.4	320.6	271.4	195.6	365.7
Vendeurs	55.9	59.9	55.0	37.3	67.0	83.5	60.9	102.9	82.3	83.6
Trav. des services	85.1	92.4	82.1	106.4	117.8	224.2	201.7	225.6	351.4	248.3
Trav. des transports et commun.	75.4	62.3	80.1	48.4	95.0	21.5	22.2	21.0	18.9	28.3
Agriculteurs	121.8	157.1	109.7	167.9	64.1	43.0	12.6	69.1	48.0	4.9
Bûcherons et trav. forêt	16.8	29.7	12.7	13.1	9.5	—	.1	.1	—	—
Pêcheurs, trappeurs	7.6	9.6	6.9	11.5	5.4	.2	.1	.2	—	—
Mineurs	13.8	12.9	14.2	9.7	14.5	—	—	—	—	—
Ouv. de métier	287.9	229.0	308.1	226.1	307.4	116.2	105.7	127.7	98.6	102.8
Manoeuvres	62.5	98.5	51.0	54.2	54.9	11.9	10.8	13.1	9.2	9.4
Non donnés	26.1	47.7	16.9	139.6	21.7	24.4	40.0	11.0	28.8	9.5

Source: B.F.S.: Recensement du Canada 1961, Bulletin 3.1-9, tableau 17.

Table 16 sets out the distribution of families by marital status of head and by numbers of children.

Before commenting on the table, it may be well to note that 42.6% of divorced women head families; that the number of children living at home is not necessarily the number of children these women have had; and that because a divorced woman is not head of a family it does not follow that she has had no children. A good deal of caution must therefore be execised in order not to confuse these statistics with the number of children divorced couples have had.

The distribution of divorced heads according to the number of children at home is much the same for both sexes.

There is a marked difference between the distribution of divorced women and that of all heads of families. Very few divorced women have no children at home, but this does not mean that there are few childless divorced women. The census definition of the head of a family introduces a bias. Generally speaking, a household is considered as having a family head only when there is a relationship such as husband and wife, or parent and child. Persons living alone are not heads of families.

The great majority (almost 80%) of divorced women, have families with one or two children at home whereas only 40% of families in general fall into there two categories.

Provincial statistics showed only slight variations with the Canadian figures.

In the United-States, 61.6% of divorces granted in 1963 involved children, whereas in 1953 the proportion was 45.5%. In 1963, the percentages of divorces by numbers of children in the family were as follows:

Numbers of children:	total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+
% of divorces	100	38.4	23.9	18.7	10.7	5.0	2.0	1.4

TABLEAU 16. Proportion des familles selon le nombre d'enfants à la maison.

Nombre d'enfants à la maison

	0	1	2	3-4	5+	Total
CANADA						
Tous chefs de familles	29.3	20.2	20.6	20.9	8.9	100.0
Masc.	29.2	19.4	20.8	21.5	9.1	100.0
Fém.	31.6	32.2	17.5	13.6	5.0	100.0
Époux et épouse à la maison	29.1	19.1	20.9	21.6	9.2	100.0
Épouse seule à la maison	9.6	38.7	24.9	20.0	6.9	100.0
Veuves	44.9	26.4	13.5	10.7	4.5	100.0
Divorcés	4.8	53.6	26.6	13.0	2.0	100.0
Masc.	5.2	55.9	26.0	11.2	1.6	100.0
Fém.	4.8	53.1	26.7	13.4	2.0	100.0

Source: B.F.S. Recensement du Canada 1961, Bulletin 2.1-7 tableau 73.

Once again, attention is drawn to the fact that the Canadian distribution of divorced women heading families is not comparable to the U.S. distribution quoted above, due to bias arising from the census definition.

These few findings bring our study of the Canada census statistics concerning divorced women to a close. As we remarked earlier, it is unfortunate that most of the tables showing the distribution of socio-cultural variables by marital status combine widows and divorced women into a single category. The result is that material which would have been valuable had it been properly expressed turns out to be almost useless.

Analysis of Divorces

In its annual report, the Vital Statistics Branch publishes the total number of divorces in Canada and the provinces, and the divorce rate per 100,000 population. With this very limited amount of information we can form some idea of divorce trends in Canada.

Turning first to absolute figures (Table 17 and Chart 14), we find that divorces had increased fourfold between 1941 and 1966. At no time during the 1941-1966 period did the number of divorces fall back to the 1941 level. There was an immediate increase after the war, which was followed by a decline until 1951, since when the number of divorces has risen steadily, though more steeply after 1962.

The increase in the number of divorces is due partly to population growth, but Chart 14 shows that the divorce rate had risen, but not so steeply. By 1966, it was only two and a half times higher than in 1941.

Chart 15 illustrates divorce rates in Canada, Belgium and the United States. Generally speaking, trends are similar in the three countries. Rates in Canada and Belgium are almost identical, whereas the higher rates set in the United States reflect that country's lead in the matter of divorce.

The picture presented by our Canadian provinces is very varied, due to differences in divorce legislation and to attitudes in the different regions. Rates are very low in Quebec, P.E.I. and Newfoundland, whereas they are very high in Alberta and British Columbia, though not so high as in the United States. It is noteworthy that provincial rates tend to rise from East to West across the country. The rise in the Canadian rate during recent years seems to be reflected in most of the provincial figures.

TABLEAU 17. Divortialité et taux, Canada et provinces, 1941-1966

Année	Canada	T.-N.(1)	Î. P.-É.(2)	N.-É.	N.-B.	Qué.(3)	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alb.	C.-B.
				Nombre des divorces							
1941	2,462	..	1	68	87	48	950	242	146	311	609
1942	3,091	..	2	70	69	71	1,187	284	209	375	824
1943	3,398	..	2	73	114	90	1,378	277	174	413	877
1944	3,827	..	3	93	78(3)	108	1,510	316	226	484	1,009
1945	5,101	..	2	158	171(3)	177	1,965	405	282	575	1,366
1946	7,757	..	4	260	382	290	2,713	636	505	962	2,005
1947	8,213	..	18	207	236	348	3,523	665	509	881	1,826
1948	6,978	..	49	78(4)	211	292	3,204	477	333	651	1,683
1949	6,052	..	20	181(4)	202	350	2,514	411	289	594	1,491
1950	5,386	5	13	199	194	234	2,241	309	280	534	1,377
1951	5,270	4	10	187	156	289	2,109	361	226	589	1,339
1952	5,650	3	9	188	200	309	2,218	338	223	630	1,532
1953	6,160	9	15	185	181	273	2,824	374	218	603	1,478
1954	5,923	8	8	249	117	370	2,469	371	250	610	1,471
1955	6,053	1	7	253	181	396	2,531	337	237	627	1,483
1956	6,002	5	1	230	215	351	2,478	314	221	685	1,502
1957	6,688	6(5)	2	250	206	519(5)	2,873	305	242	726	1,559
1958	6,279	7	1	220	150	311	2,776	292	281	743	1,498
1959	6,543	1	6	215	221	351	2,915	301	276	836	1,420
1960	6,980	6	10	221	178	481	2,965	361	213	951	1,592
1961	6,563	6	8	245	194	348	2,739	312	251	1,039	1,397
1962	6,768	(6)	5	229	181	(6)	3,140	339	281	1,084	1,490
1963	7,686	8	8	271	172	491	3,237	369	331	1,268	1,516
1964	8,623	7(7)	5	315	210	834(7)	3,508	418	315	1,389	1,596
1965	8,974	3	16	323	237	226	4,087	443	312	1,348	1,961
1966	10,239	11	18	406	155	988	4,101	524	321	1,567	2,124

Année											
1941	21.4	..	1.1	11.8	19.0	1.4	25.1	33.2	16.3	39.1	74.5
1942	26.5	..	2.2	11.8	14.9	2.1	30.6	39.2	24.6	48.3	94.7
1943	28.8	..	2.2	12.0	24.6	2.6	35.2	38.3	20.8	52.6	97.4
1944	32.0	..	3.3	15.2	16.9(3)	3.1	38.1	43.5	27.0	59.9	108.3
1945	42.3	..	2.2	25.5	36.6(3)	5.0	49.1	55.7	33.9	71.2	143.9
1946	63.1	..	4.3	42.8	79.9	8.0	66.3	87.5	60.6	119.8	199.9
1947	65.4	..	19.1	33.7	48.4	9.4	84.4	90.0	60.9	106.8	174.9
1948	54.4	..	52.7	12.5(4)	42.4	7.7	74.9	63.9	39.7	76.2	155.5
1949	45.0	—	21.3	28.8(4)	39.8	9.0	57.4	54.3	34.7	67.1	134.0
1950	39.3	1.4	13.5	31.2	37.9	5.9	50.1	40.2	33.6	58.5	121.1
1951	37.6	1.1	10.2	29.1	30.2	7.1	45.9	46.5	27.2	62.7	114.9
1952	39.1	0.8	9.0	28.8	38.0	7.4	46.3	42.4	26.5	64.7	127.1
1953	41.5	2.3	14.9	27.9	34.0	6.4	57.2	46.2	25.3	59.6	118.4
1954	38.7	2.0	7.9	37.0	21.7	8.4	48.3	45.1	28.6	57.7	113.6
1955	38.6	0.2	7.0	37.0	33.1	8.8	48.1	40.2	27.0	57.5	110.5
1956	37.3	1.2	1.0	33.1	38.7	7.6	45.8	36.9	25.1	61.0	107.4
1957	40.3	1.4(5)	2.0	35.7	36.7	10.9(5)	51.0	35.4	27.5	62.4	105.2
1958	36.8	1.6	1.0	31.0	26.3	6.3	47.7	33.4	31.5	61.6	97.4
1959	37.4	0.2	5.9	29.9	38.0	7.0	48.8	33.8	30.4	67.0	90.6
1960	39.1	1.3	9.7	30.4	30.2	9.4	48.5	39.8	23.3	73.7	99.4
1961	36.0	1.3	7.6	33.2	32.4	6.6	43.9	33.9	27.1	78.0	85.8
1962	36.4	(6)	4.7	30.7	29.9	(6)	49.4	36.2	30.2	79.2	89.8
1963	40.6	1.7	7.4	36.1	38.2	9.0	49.9	38.9	35.5	90.4	89.2
1964	44.7	1.4	4.6	41.7	34.4	14.9	52.9	43.6	33.4	97.1	91.5
1965	45.7	0.6	14.7	42.7	38.5	4.0	60.2	45.9	32.8	93.0	109.1
1966	51.2	2.2	16.6	53.7	25.1	17.1	58.9	54.4	33.6	107.1	113.4

(1) Accordées par le Parlement fédéral.
(2) Une cour de divorce a été instituée en Île-du-Prince-Édouard en 1945. Antérieurement à cette année les divorces étaient accordés par le Parlement fédéral.
(3) La cour n'ayant pas siégé à l'automne 1944, les demandes ont été renvoyées à janvier 1945.
(4) En vertu d'un nouveau règlement adopté en août 1948, un décret provisoire devient absolu au bout de trois mois. Il en résulte qu'un certain nombre de divorces ne sont devenus effectifs que l'année suivante.
(5) Accordées durant les deux sessions tenues par le Parlement en 1957.
(6) Durant les sessions de 1962, le Parlement n'a adopté aucun bill de divorce.
(7) Comprend les bills de divorce adoptés par la Chambre des Communes durant la session parlementaire 1964-1965.

Before moving on to our divorce projections, a glance at the
distribution of divorces according to the petitioning party (Table 18)
reveals that, in Canada, the bride is the petitioner in approximately 60%
of divorce cases. In the provinces, rates vary from 50% to 70%, but many
of them are close to the 60% mark. In the United States, brides petition
in over 70% of divorce cases. Belgium presents a very different picture,
since there is a joint petition in 30% of divorce cases. Possibly, a
difference in Belgian divorce legislation as compared with North American
practice accounts for this fact.

TABLEAU 18. Répartition procentuelle des divorces d'après la partie demanderesse

	1964			1965			1966		
	T	H	F	T	H	F	T	H	F
CANADA(1)	100.0	40.6	59.4	100.0	42.0	58.0	100.0	40.6	59.4
Terre-Neuve	100.0	42.9	57.1	100.0	33.3	66.7	100.0	45.5	54.5
Île-du-Prince-Éd.	100.0	40.0	60.0	100.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	44.4	55.6
Nouvelle-Écosse	100.0	41.3	58.7	100.0	39.6	60.4	100.0	43.1	56.9
Nouveau-Brunswick	100.0	32.9	67.1	100.0	36.3	63.7	100.0	32.9	67.1
Québec	100.0	30.1	69.9	100.0	33.2	66.8	100.0	33.8	66.2
Ontario	100.0	44.6	55.4	100.0	45.3	54.7	100.0	44.3	55.7
Manitoba	100.0	49.0	51.0	100.0	44.2	55.8	100.0	43.7	56.3
Saskatchewan	100.0	42.2	57.8	100.0	46.2	53.8	100.0	48.9	51.1
Alberta	100.0	35.9	64.1	100.0	34.9	65.1	100.0	34.4	65.6
Colombie-Britannique	100.0	39.5	60.5	100.0	40.6	59.4	100.0	39.1	60.9

États-Unis(2)   1963

Total 100.0
Hommes 28.0
Femmes 72.0

Belgique(3)   1965

Total 100.0
Hommes 36.9
Femmes 33.5
Deux conjoints 29.6

Source: (1) B.F.S.: Statistique de l'État civil, tableaux non publiés;
(2) U.S. National Center for Health Statistics: Divorce Statistics Analysis, 1963, series 21, No. 13, tableau AB, p. 39.
(3) Institut national de Statistique: Bulletin de Statistique 1967, No. 3, tableau 34, p. 135.

Divorce Projections

In contrast with the procedure followed for our marriage projections and order that the results of our work may be more easily understood and interpreted, we shall explain our methods as we go along.

Under existing Canadian conditions, any attempt to project divorce statistics is a hazardous undertaking. As we have already pointed out, statistics are extremely scarce and changes in legislation may produce the most unexpected results.

The logical way to analyse divorce trends is to establish a relationship between divorces granted in any one year with the marriages which may produce them. We shall refer to this relationship, expressed as a percentage, as the "reduced divorce rate". The figures, however, are not so easily determined, since we do not know how many marriages may lead to divorce. Divorces registered during any one year come from marriages contracted during the preceding 30 years. As a phenomenon, divorce is related to the duration of the marriage. The divorce rate for any one generation of marriages (marriages contracted in the same year) varies according to the number of years these marriages have lasted. If numbers of marriages did not vary from year to year, this factor would not be very important in estimating the "reduced divorce rate". One could simply divide the number of divorces in any one year by the number of marriages in that same year. But since the number of marriages in Canada varies from year to year, we shall attempt, with the help of a few assumptions, to calculate a weighted average for the number of marriages in preceding years which may produced divorces in any particular year. Obviously, we do not know the Canadian distribution of divorces according to the number of years the couples have been married, but we do have these figures for the United States and Belgium (Chart 16). We note that in the United States divorces occur very shortly after marriage, whereas in
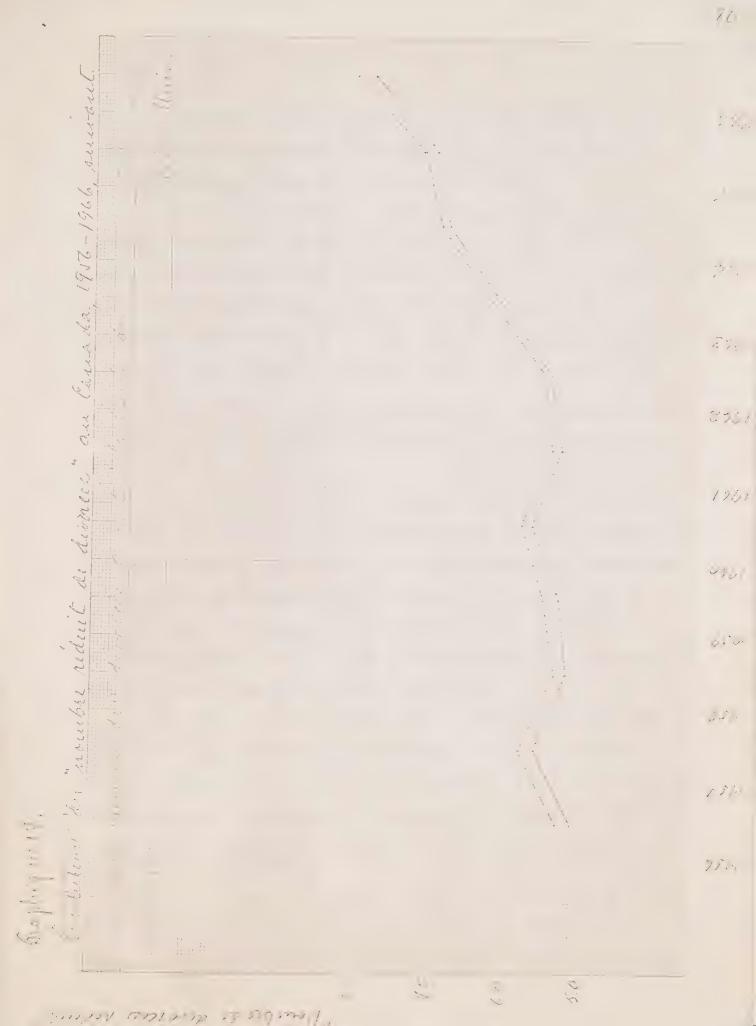
TABLEAU 19. Nombre réduit de divorces pour 100 mariages pondérés(1) Canada et provinces 1956-1966.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
CANADA	5.29	5.80	5.36	5.51	5.81	5.41	5.52	6.22	6.92	7.15	8.06
Terre-Neuve(2)											
Île-du-Prince-Édouard(2)											
Nouvelle-Écosse	4.39	4.73	4.14	4.03	4.14	4.59	4.29	5.08	5.92	6.07	7.62
Nouveaux-Brunswick	5.11	4.86	3.51	5.15	4.14	4.50	4.19	3.97	4.83	5.43	3.54
Québec	1.13	1.64	0.97	1.08	1.46	1.00	—	1.40	2.41	0.64	2.80
Ontario	6.46	7.34	7.34	7.20	7.21	6.58	7.45	7.60	8.15	9.41	9.29
Manitoba	4.49	4.34	4.15	4.28	5.14	4.46	4.87	5.32	6.04	6.42	7.60
Saskatchewan	3.26	3.56	4.13	4.06	3.14	3.71	4.17	4.93	4.72	4.69	4.84
Alberta	8.44	8.75	8.78	9.70	10.85	11.67	11.98	13.81	14.90	14.26	16.35
Colombie-Britannique	16.10	16.30	15.32	14.20	15.59	13.44	14.11	14.17	14.76	17 99	19.22

(1) Distribution belge.
(2) À cause du très petit nombre de divorces, les divorces réduits n'ont pu être calculés pour les 2 provinces.

Belgium the majority of divorces occur 5 to 10 years after marriage. This no doubt reflects a basic difference in outlook, but it may also depend partly on the extent to which legislation facilitates divorce.

In order to calculate the weighted average of divorce-producing marriages in any one year in Canada, we selected the Belgian distribution. In spite of our country's proximity to the U.S. with the resulting American influence over our outlook, we felt that our attitude towards divorce was far less liberal than theirs. We therefore adopted the Belgian distribution as a bssis for calculating rates for Canada and the provinces (Table 19). However, we also calculated the overall Canada rate on the basis of the U.S. distribution, in order to point up the implications of our choice. Since older marriages produce more divorces in the Belgian distribution and since there are fewer such marriages due to the annual increase in the numbers of marriages, it follows that the weighted average is lower than it would be in the case of the U.S. distribution, where the more recent and more numerous marriages produce the largest number of divorces. As a consequence, the "reduced divorce rate" for the more recent years is higher on the Belgian than on the U.S. basis (Chart 17). The general trend is very similar, with the Belgian distribution giving slightly higher figures.

For the purpose of our projections, we made certain assumptions concerning the level of the "reduced divorce rate" and then applied the rate to the weighted average number of marriages for each year in the projection. Before introducing our assumptions, we shall consider an example in order to point up the implications of our choice of the Belgian distribution.

Number of divorces
 registered in 1966   10,215

Weighted average number   Reduced divorce
 of marriages   rate
(a) Belgian distribution   126,720   8.06%
(b) U.S. distribution   130,932   7.80%

On the basis of the 1966 rates, the number of divorces in the

last year of the projection will be as follows:

Weighted average number   Number of divorces
 of marriages
(a) Belgian distribution   176,712   14,243
(b) U.S. distribution   192,168   14,989

The Belgian distribution produces a smaller number of divorces.

This fact should be borne in mind when interpreting the projections. The

figures (and more particularly the provincial figures) should be regarded

as minimums, since it is reasonable to expect that the liberalisation of

the divorce laws may tend to bring Canadian trends more in line with those

of the U.S. In any case, there is no great difference between the two sets

of figures.

For the purpose of the projections, we adopted three different

assumptions concerning the level of the "reduced divorce rate".

- Assumption I : The 1966 Canadian level will continue unchanged.

- Assumption II: The level of the "reduced divorce rate" will

rise to 15.0%.

- Assumption III: The level of the "reduced divorce rate" will

rise to the recent U.S. level of 26.4%.

Up to a point, the choice of these assumptions was arbitrary.

The first gave us a basis for calculating the minimum number of divorces.

It was the only basis used for the provinces. In view of the limited

technical facilities and the type of basic population estimates available,

we felt there was little point in going any further with the provincial

projections. The results, which cannot be considered in any way as

definitive, should be looked upon as were working tools or guides.

The third assumption should be considered as a maximum which

might conceivably be reached, but which would imply a profound change of

attitude which our society is no doubt capable of undergoing.

The second assumption is an arbitrary choice which might well

turn out to be a close approximation.

To sum up, in order to make our divorce projections, we:

- figured the "reduced divorce rate" for recent years;

- established a weighted average number of divorce-producing

marriages for each year in our projection.

- applied the "reduced divorce rate" to the weighted averages on

the basis of the three assumptions, giving the absolute number of marriages

for each years in the projection.

Tables 20, 21 and 22 show the numbers of divorces for Canada and

the provinces for each year in our projection.

The provincial figures, calculated on the basis that 1966 rates

would remain unchanged, show an increase in the number of divorces due to

the influence of two demographic factors: population growth and the increase

in the number of marriages. As in the case of our marriages indexes, 1966

served as a base year for our divorce indexes (1981 divorces / 1966 divorces x 100):

Newfoundland	191	Ontario	139
P.E.I.	122	Manitoba	118
Nova Scotia	121	Saskatchewan	114
New Brunswick	163	Alberta	139
Quebec	154	British Columbia	151

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TABLEAU 20. Perspective de divorces, Canada, 1966-1981 .

(Divorces obtenus en fondant la moyenne pondérée des mariages sur la distribution belge)

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Hypothèse I	10,215	10,325	10,451	10,606	10,798	11,011	11,240	11,498
Hypothèse II	10,215	10,888	11,606	12,341	13,196	14,071	14,992	15,978
Hypothèse III	10,215	11,581	13,330	15,159	17,094	19,126	21,253	23,510
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Hypothèse I	11,776	12,090	12,427	12,776	13,120	13,482	13,858	14,243
Hypothèse II	17,022	18,149	19,350	20,606	21,893	23,250	24,672	26,153
Hypothèse III	25,891	28,439	31,145	33,984	36,917	40,010	43,258	46,652

Hypothèse I: maintien du nombre réduit de divorces de 1966 jusqu'en 1981.

Hypothèse II: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 15.0% en 1981.

Hypothèse III: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 26.4% en 1981.
  (situation américaine récent)

TABLEAU 21. Perspective de divorces, Canada, 1966-1981

(Divorces obtenus en fondant la moyenne pondérée des mariages sur la distribution américaine)

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Hypothèse I	10,215	10,449	10,712	10,998	11,292	11,592	11,908	12,233
Hypothèse II	10,215	11,387	12,292	13,254	14,260	15,307	16,412	17,566
Hypothèse III	10,215	12,110	14,118	16,243	18,473	20,806	23,267	25,847
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Hypothèse I	12,573	12,978	13,283	13,621	13,967	14,315	14,659	14,989
Hypothèse II	18,779	20,054	21,372	22,702	24,084	25,511	26,970	28,441
Hypothèse III	28,563	31,424	34,399	37,441	40,612	43,901	47,286	50,732

Hypothèse I: maintien du nombre réduit de divorces de 1966 jusqu'en 1981.

Hypothèse III: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 15.0% en 1981.

Hypothèse III: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 26.4% en 1981.
  (situation américaine récente)

TABLEAU 22. Perspective de divorces, provinces canadiennes, 1966-1981

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
Terre-Neuve	11	15	15	15	16	16	17	17
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	18	17	17	17	17	18	18	18
Nouvelle-Écosse	406	407	409	412	416	420	425	430
Nouveau-Brunswick	155	203	204	206	209	212	215	219
Québec	988	642	651	663	677	692	709	729
Ontario	4,101	4,131	4,186	4,252	4,331	4,420	4,513	4,616
Manitoba	524	525	525	527	529	533	536	542
Saskatchewan	321	320	320	320	322	324	326	329
Alberta	1,567	1,589	1,614	16641	1,671	1,704	1,740	1,779
Colombie-Britannique	2,124	2,153	2,190	2,235	2,288	2,359	2,409	2,479

	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Terre-Neuve	17	18	18	19	20	20	21	21
Île-du-Prince-Édouard	19	19	20	20	20	21	21	22
Nouvelle-Écosse	435	442	449	457	464	473	482	491
Nouveau-Brunswick	222	227	231	235	239	243	247	252
Québec	750	773	798	824	850	878	907	936
Ontario	4,726	4,854	4,993	5,136	5,273	5,418	5,567	5,720
Manitoba	548	557	567	577	586	596	607	617
Saskatchewan	333	337	342	347	351	356	361	365
Alberta	1,821	1,867	1,916	1,967	2,017	2,069	2,122	2,173
Colombie-Britannique	2,553	2,635	2,724	2,816	2,908	3,005	3,104	3,208

In order to illustrate the divorce trend for Canada as a whole
on the basis of our three assumptions, we resorted to the same index as we
had already used for the provinces and for the marriage rates.

1981 Divorces / 1966 Divorces x 100

- Belgian weighting	Assumption I		139
		II	256
		III	457
- U.S. weighting	Assumption I		147
		II	278
		III	497

The indexes show quite clearly that there is only a slight
difference between the two types of weighting, but that a fivefold increase
in the number of divorces would result from a change of attitude in the
direction of the U.S. pattern. The implications of such changes could well
be very significant, were it only from the point of view of the number of
children who would have to adjust to new family situations.

Divorce rates reflect the relationship between divorces, marriages
and total population growth (Table 23, Charts 18 and 19). Under assumption
I, the divorce rates indicate that the increase in the number of divorces is
directly related to the increase the number of marriages, and that the latter
figure rises more rapidly than that of the total population. Under Assumption
III, we find that, even in 1981, Canadian divorce rates will not have reached
the level set by the U.S. in 1963. This is due to the composition of the
population by age groups and not to any difference in the incidence of the
phenomenon, since this has been assumed to be the same. This is a good
illustration of the weakness of the crude divorce rate as an indication of
actual trends.

TABLEAU 23. Taux de divortialité atteints au cours de la période de perspective
Canada, 1967-1981

Année de la perspective	Pondération belge			Pondération américaine		
	Hypothèse I	Hypothèse II	Hypothèse III	Hypothèse I	Hypothèse II	Hypothèse III
	(Taux pour 100,000 habitants)					
1967	50.7	53.5	56.9	51.3	55.9	59.5
1968	50.5	56.0	64.4	51.7	59.3	68.2
1969	50.3	58.6	72.0	52.2	62.9	77.1
1970	50.4	61.6	79.8	52.7	66.6	86.2
1971	50.5	64.6	87.8	53.2	70.3	95.5
1972	50.7	67.7	95.9	53.8	74.1	105.0
1973	51.1	70.9	104.4	54.3	78.0	114.8
1974	51.4	74.3	113.1	54.9	82.0	124.7
1975	51.9	77.9	122.1	55.7	86.1	135.0
1976	52.5	81.7	131.5	56.1	90.3	145.3
1977	53.1	85.6	141.2	56.6	94.3	155.5
1978	53.6	89.5	150.8	57.1	98.4	165.9
1979	54.2	93.4	161.1	57.5	102.5	176.4
1980	54.8	97.5	171.0	57.9	106.6	186.9
1981	55.4	101.7	181.4	58.3	110.6	197.3

Hypothèse I: maintien du nombre réduit de divorces de 1966 jusqu'en 1981.

Hypothèse II: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 15.0% en 1981.

Hypothèse III: accroissement du nombre réduit de divorces jusqu'à 26.4% en 1981.
 (situation américaine récente).

Graphique 19.

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

Taux de divortialité, Canada 1956-1981

August 23, 1968

Mr. J.A.D. Graham,
Director of Administration,
The Deputy Attorney-General,
Legislative Building,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Mr. Graham:

Thank you for your letter of July 30, 1968, concerning
data on legal separations that I requested for a research project
for the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada. I re-
gret that you cannot provide the information.

Nevertheless you mentioned that you would be able to
give me the answer of legal separations yearly recorded back as
far as 1956. This information, even limited, will be very useful
to me and I would appreciate very much if you would send it to me.

Yours truly,

Evelyne Lapierre,
Demographic Analyses and Research Section,
Census Division,
No. 8 Temporary Building, Ottawa, Ontario.

EL/jb

July 5, 1968

Dear Sir:

In connection with a research project directed by
Miss Berangère Gaudet, notary, for the Royal Commission on the
Status of Women in Canada, we would like to know the number of
legal separations yearly recorded in your province since 1950;
we also want to obtain some data concerning characteristics of
spouses to whom a legal separation is given. Among those
characteristics, age of the spouses and duration of their marriage
are the most important.

It would be very much appreciated if you would send
us these statistics as soon as possible.

Thank you for your collaboration.

Yours very truly,

Evelyne Lapierre,
Demographic Analysis and
Research Section,
Census Division.

EL/ha

Ottawa, 5 juillet 1968

Ministère de la justice,
Province de Québec.

Monsieur,

Dans le cadre d'une recherche conduite pour la
Commission royale d'enquête sur la situation de la femme au
Canada, nous désirons connaître le nombre de séparations légales
accordées annuellement depuis 1950 ainsi que certaines
caractéristiques des conjoints obtenant leur séparation légale.
Parmi ces caractéristiques, l'âge des conjoints et la durée de
leur mariage sont, pour nous, les plus importantes.

Nous apprécierions grandement que vous nous fassiez
parvenir ces statistiques le plus tôt possible.

Nous vous remercions de votre collaboration.

Bien à vous,

Evelyne Lapierre,
Recherche en analyse démographique,
Division du recensement.

EL/ha

ST. JOHN'S

17 July 1968

Dear Miss Lapierre:

I have your letter of July 5th, 1968, asking about
the number of legal separations recorded in this province since
1950 and I have forwarded your letter to the Registrar of the
Supreme Court of Newfoundland for disposition.

Yours sincerely,

Cyril J. Greene
Deputy Minister of Justice.

Miss Evelyne Lapierre
Demographic Analysis and Research Section
Census Division
No. 8 Temporary Building
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
Ottawa, Canada

Family Court   and   Juvenile Court

YOUR FILE_____

OUR FILE _____

August 19, 1968

Evelyne Lapierre
Demographic Analysis and
    Research Section
Census Division
Dominion Bureau of Statistics
No. 8 Temporary Building
Ottawa, Canada

Dear Sir:

Further to your enquiry of July 5, 1968, referring to legal
separations recorded yearly in our province since 1950, this is to
advise that the province does not keep statistics or data concerning
characteristics of spouses to whom the legal separation is given.

With respect to actions for maintenance and custody where the
parents are separated, in fact, but not by virtue of any legal
pronouncement, generally the Family Court is involved. In this area
we may deal with approximately 1500 cases per year.

If there is any particular information we could supply you with
reference to the type of couples who appear in the Family Court, we
would be pleased to attempt to accommodate you.

Yours truly

Norman G. Hewitt
Judge
Juvenile and Family Courts

NGH/er

23/8/68

Province of 🛡 *Saskatchewan*

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
ASB:DP

REGINA, Saskatchewan,
July 12, 1968.

Dear Madam:

Re: Legal Separations.

This is to acknowledge receipt of your circular
letter dated July 5th addressed to the Department of
Justice, Regina, which it is felt was intended for this
Department from which it is noted that you request to
be furnished with statistics pertaining to legal
separations and note what you say.

In reply I may say that legal separations are
not filed or recorded at any of the Judicial Centres in
view of the fact that such legal separations are normally
drawn up and settled in a solicitor's office.

However, Judicial Separations are recorded
at the various Judicial Centres throughout the Province,
but no age is recorded of the spouses at the time of
filing of the necessary documents.

Yours truly,

Administrative Officer.

Evelyne Lapierre,
Census Division,
Dominion Bureau of Statistics,
No. 8 Temporary Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Recd 6 13-8-68

LINDEN M. SMITH, LL.M.

PROTHONOTARY OF THE SUPREME COURT
CLERK OF THE CROWN
CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT
REGISTRAR OF THE COURT FOR DIVORCE
REGISTRAR OF BANKRUPTCY
OFFICIAL RECEIVER
ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

TEL. 423-8096
TEL. 423-6617
P. O. BOX 535

THE LAW COURTS
SPRING GARDEN ROAD

HALIFAX, CANADA

July 10, 1968.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics,
Census Building,
#8 Temporary Building,
Ottawa,
Ontario.

Attention: Evelyne LaPierre

Dear Sirs:

I have your circular letter dated July 5, 1968,
with respect to a research project on the status of women
in Canada, in which you request certain statistics since
1950 relative to legal separation.

The statistics which you request have not been
maintained through the years and, to obtain such infor-
mation, would require a considerable staff and entail
more work than we are able to put into this project.

Yours very truly,

LMS/MK.

Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO FILE .   W419-3

July 12, 1968.

Miss Evelyne Lapierre,
Demographic Analysis and
        Research Section,
Census Division,
Dominion Bureau of Statistics,
No. 8 Temporary Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Madam:

        In reply to your letter of July 5, addressed to the
Department of Justice, Victoria, I regret to inform you that
the statistical information requested in regard to legal
separations in this Province is not available and cannot be
obtained without a tremendous amount of work, for which,
unfortunately, we do not have staff to spare.

        This Department does not maintain a statistical
branch and there is no central registry in the Province which
records the data you are seeking. In order to obtain it, it
would be necessary to search the individual files for each of
the eighteen years in each of forty odd court registries throughout
the Province.

                        Yours truly,

                        A. L. Pearson,
                        Assistant Deputy
                        Attorney-General.

ALP/dml

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY-GENERAL
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

FOR ATTENTION OF MR. J. A. D. Graham

IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

OUR FILE NO.

604

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
WINNIPEG

July 30th, 1968.

Evelyne Lapierre,
Demographic Analysis and
        Research Section,
Census Division,
Dominion Bureau of Statistics,
No. 8 Temporary Building,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Miss Lapierre:

        This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July
5th, 1968, wherein you request certain information with respect
to legal separations, required for a research project for the
Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada.

        I regret to inform you that the statistics you have
requested have never been maintained in Manitoba, and without
employing extra staff for research purposes, it would be impossible
for us to provide the information requested.

        It may be possible however, should such information be
of any use to you, for us to give you the number of legal separations
yearly recorded back as far as 1956, however without the detailed
information with respect to age, duration of marriage etc.

        If the limited information is useful to you, please let
me know.

                                Yours truly,

                                J. A. D. Graham,
                        Director of Administration.

                                                19-8-68

JADG:jt

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
WINNIPEG

September 13th, 1968.

Miss Evelyne Lapierre,
Demographic Analyses and Research Section,
Census Division,
No. 8 Temporary Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Miss Lapierre:

As requested in your letter of August 23rd,
1968, I enclose a return showing the number of
legal separations yearly in Manitoba recorded back
as far as 1956.

Yours truly,

J.A.D. Graham,
Director of Administration.

17/9/68

IM
Encl.

SEPARATIONS

1967	–	216
1966	–	331
1965	–	260
1964	–	254
1963	–	241
1962	–	232
1961	–	248
1960	–	182
1959	–	163
1958	–	140
1957	–	138
1956	–	115

ATTORNEY GENERAL

CHARLOTTETOWN

P. O. Box 2000,
5 August 1968.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics,
Census Division,
No. 8 Temporary Bldg.,
OTTAWA.

        Attention - Miss Evelyne Lapierre

Dear Miss Lapierre:

        I acknowledge receipt of your letter of
July 5th., with relation to judicial separations
in this Province. I have checked the court records
with regard to judicial separations and find that
there were only two since 1950. I do not have any
particulars on these two cases.

        Yours very truly,

        J. A. McGuigan
        Deputy Attorney-General

JAMcG:mm